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December 16-22, 2004

Hazardous waste well permit process stalled

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Romulus citizens received an early Christmas present last week when Environmental Disposal Systems (EDS) unexpectedly withdrew its controversial petition to operate a nearby hazardous waste injection well.

For years, EDS has been obtaining permits to operate two wells located in Romulus that would pump more than 240,000 gallons of hazardous waste daily below the surface of Romulus and Taylor.

Politicians on the local and state level have been battling to deny EDS those same permits for more than 12 years.

However, EDS unexpectedly withdrew from the application process for the last permit needed to begin operations at the Romulus facilities.

"I can't imagine a better Christmas gift to the people of Romulus than the news that they may not be forced to

share their community with a hazardous waste facility," said State Sen. Ray Basham.

He said EDS submitted a letter to the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on Friday and officially withdrew its application when regulators discovered defective equipment and structures on the facility—including an inadequately constructed containment wall. The wells, which are about 4,200 feet below the surface, if ever operational, could hold hazardous liquid wastes—including acids and heavy metals such as mercury, chromium and nickel.

"EDS submitted a professional certification that their hazardous wastes facility was constructed in compliance with the permit requirements, but that simply was not the case," he added.

The project has been scrutinized since its inception during the Engler administration and the problems have not gone unnoticed.

"The fact that EDS did not build its facility to construction permit safeguards gives us a very real reason to suspect that the company is not a reliable actor," said Congressman John Dingell.

This may, however, be just be a speed bump along the road to operation for EDS, officials speculated.

"EDS didn't just walk away from the project," said Timothy Keyes, economic development director for Romulus. "Rather than be denied the permit they withdrew from the process."

EDS will try to fix the problems and then resubmit for the permit, according to Keyes. The delay will take at least 6-8 months, during which time Romulus officials and state legislators can look at other avenues to legally shut the project down, he said.

"We're happy that the state has been scrutinizing the permit process," he said. "We're thrilled that EDS can not operate—every day without the well is a good day."



Bikes, as far as the eye could see, lined the floor of the Pride Center and cafeteria at the General Motors Powertrain plant. Thousands of dollars worth of toys and 350 bikes were given to Toys for Tots on behalf of the engine plant employees.

General Motors donates toys, 350 bikes to Toys for Tots

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

For the seventh consecutive year, hundreds of children will receive Christmas presents thanks to the efforts of the General Motors Powertrain plant in Romulus.

Employees at the plant, along with local businesses, GM suppliers and dealerships, teamed together to donate 350 bicycles, thousands of dollars in toys and cash donations to the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign.

GM had participated in the Toys for Tots program before but there was never that much interest in it until Mark Marek became involved. Six years ago

Marek, co-coordinator of the event for UAW Local 163, took it upon himself to collect donations and bikes. And because of his efforts, GM donated more than 100 bikes and thousands of dollars in toys.

"We had a tree up with nothing around it," Marek said about getting involved with the program. "So, what I did was collect some money in the department and went out and bought nine bikes and put some bows on them and got McDonalds to donate a Value Meal for every bike. Everybody started saying, 'Hey, I want to get in on that,' and when we got done we had 150 bikes."

The program has grown every year—to a record 350

bikes this year. The event has even outgrown its original home at the plant, the Pride Center, and now shares space in the cafeteria as well.

"I think it's grown bigger every year because people can see where their money goes," Marek said. "They're not just putting money into box. They get to see all the bikes lined up and all of the toys under the tree; they actually see a difference."

"We're never thought it would grow this big," he added. "It was a snowball that turned into a glacier."

Each year Marek and all of the volunteers, a good part of the

See **Toys**, page 3

Champagne named public safety director

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Van Buren Township looked to a neighboring community to find a new public safety director.

Last week, the township board of trustees voted to enter into formal contract negotiations with Gerald Champagne, deputy police chief of Romulus. Cindy King, Van Buren Township supervisor, said that she hopes to have him on board by January.

"We had two fine candidates, but we could only chose one," she said. "The fit was subjective and it was certainly not easy. I don't want John (Buck) to think he is a bad candidate, but the best fit for Van Buren Township is Gerry (Champagne)."

Recently, the trustees, along with the public safety committee, put the final two contenders—John Buck, deputy police chief of the Redford Township Police Department, and Champagne through an extensive interview process.

Champagne, an 18-year veteran of the Romulus Police Department, was chosen from 64 candidates. Eight then underwent a lengthy interview and background check before the final two candidates were chosen.

"Many of the candidates commented that they have never been through such a rigorous interview process, but it certainly separated the men from the boys," said King. "To have gotten on the short list is certainly no small achievement."

A study received by the trustees in May recommended several changes in the township public safety department, includ-

ing the need for better communication, organization and a public safety director. The study was conducted by independent contractors Bill Kelly and Tom Stone.

The department evaluation took more than six months and included recommendations for improving both the fire and police department in several areas including: personnel, funding, response times and general procedures.

"The purpose of the report was to get a person who would be here for the long haul," said Clerk Joannie Payne. "Obviously, we are looking for the candidate who is the right fit for the community at this time. I agree that it is Gerry (Champagne)."

The township has been without a public safety director since July 2003.

Trustees unanimously agreed that Champagne was the right person to make departmental changes for the better.

"The community has been very engaged in this decision and they are watching closely," said Trustee Phil Hart. "I appreciate the process that took place because there was hard work from both candidates. Both Buck and Champagne had their strengths and their weaknesses."

Champagne, who referred to his leadership style in the interview as paramilitary, said that he does not have any fears of taking over the position, but looks at it as an exciting challenge.

"This is a leadership role I've been working toward all my life," he said. "A year from now, I hope that the department has the lead-

See **Director**, page 3

Students sought for academic, artistic program

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

African American high school students who hope to show off their math and science skills are invited to participate in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) "ACT-SO" program. The initiative is part of the NAACP Afro-Academic, Cultural, Technological, and Scientific Olympics.

Raymond G. Mullins, the director of the Western Wayne County Branch of the NAACP, said the 2-year-old program helps black and other African American students aspire to success, academically and socially.

"This is a really great program, and I hope we get a lot of support for it," Mullins said.

This year, the NAACP is seeking students from: Belleville, Canton, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster,

Livonia, Lincoln Park, Sumpter Township, Plymouth, Redford, Taylor, Romulus, Wayne, Westland, Ecorse and River Rouge.

ACT-SO was developed in 1978 to enhance and showcase the academic and artistic achievements of African-American high school students. The students will compete in 24 categories at a local and – if they advance – a national level. The categories include science, performing arts, humanities, visual arts, and business. The competition is open to students in the ninth through 12th grade. Participants must be of African descent and a U.S. citizen.

Students will take part in a year-long process working with mentors and teachers to prepare for the competition and to stimulate interaction between young people and successful adults. In competition, students will work on solo projects and performances and group activities.

The top winners from cities will com-

pete at the national ACT-SO finals during the NAACP national convention in Milwaukee, WI. About \$50,000 in scholarship money is available. Winners will be chosen in each category. Gold medallists receive \$1,000, silver medallists \$750, and bronze medallists receive \$500.

Mullins said this is the second year the Western Wayne County NAACP has participated in the program.

In addition to student participants, the

NAACP is looking for volunteers with expertise in several categories to assist students. An informational meeting is scheduled from 6 to 8 p.m. on Dec. 21 at Smith Chapel A.M.E. in Inkster. Students and parents are invited. There will be orientation video and a question and answer session.

Smith Chapel A.M.E. is located at 3505 Walnut Road. For more information, call Mullins at (734) 485-5715 or send him an email at attyaymullins@provide.net.

Holiday donations offer help to needy families

Salvation Army Kettle Drive continues

The Salvation Army will have 26 locations around western Wayne County to generate funds during the holiday season as part of their Red Kettle campaign. The Belleville donation locations include: Kmart on Rawsonville Road, the post office, Wal-Mart and Farmer Jack on Belleville Road and Ace Hardware on Sumpter Road. The money that is raised will stay in the local areas to provide families and individuals with food, clothing, emergency shelter, rent and utilities throughout the year.

Big Boy 'Can Do' under way

The 27th annual "Operation Can Do," a food drive organized by Big Boy Restaurants International LLC, will continue until Dec. 31. Donations of nonperishable items in their original cans or boxes will be accepted at participating Big Boy restaurants. The Belleville Big Boy is located at 10705 Belleville Road. For more information, call 734-699-1313.

Girlstown seeking donations

The Girlstown Foundation in Belleville will accept donations from their Christmas wish list throughout the month.

Non-perishable gifts will go to the programs and services at the foundation, specifically the loch rio program, the transitional treatment program and the supervised independent living program.

The wish list includes: clothing items, shoes, accessories and personal items, school supplies and household products. To donate, call the foundation at 734-697-7242.

Goodfellows need help

The Goodfellows of Belleville and Van Buren Township will collect toys and canned goods to provide for the more than 250 families in need around the area.

They will also collect mittens, gloves, hats and scarves to be distributed. For more information about drop-off locations, or how you can contribute, call 734-699-8930.

Social club helps Goodfellows

The Sumpter Social Civic Club, a part of the Goodfellows, will collect food and toys. Items can be dropped off at the club, located at 19867 Sumpter Road. For more information, call 734-697-7797.

Women's club aids church

The Belleville Business and Professional Women (BPW) will collect food and clothing to be donated to the First United Methodist Church in Belleville. The BPW will also collect cuddly new toys for the Van Buren Township Police Department to give out to area children.

Businesses donations

Both Curves for Women, located at 51 Fifth St., and Storage U.S.A., located at 1900 Rawsonville Road, have boxes in their stores now until Christmas for toy collections. Curves will also have a special drawing for people who donate. The winner will receive one free month at Curves. For more information, call curves at 734-697-2000, or Storage U.S.A. at 734-483-7720.

Alliance to help seniors

The Senior Alliance in Wayne is gathering funds to give the senior citizens a warm holiday meal. The alliance, which serves seniors within southern and western Wayne County, is asking for a \$5 donation to include meal-on-wheels, a hot meal delivered on the holidays and caregiver support and information on medical programs. To donate, call 734-722-2830.

Gym seeking coats

The Powerhouse Gym in Belleville is collecting coats for kids in need. They will have a box through Dec. 22 at their office located at 11780 Belleville Road. The gym is open Monday through Friday, 5:30 a.m. to 10 p.m., Saturday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Contributions are welcome.



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Senior Alliance asks city council for additional funds

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

While Romulus City Council members were overwhelmingly supportive of a request from The Senior Alliance's (TSA) for more funding during their regular meeting last week, they opted to follow the city budget amendment process before disbursing any funds.

When approved, the city will pay an additional \$1,838—double the amount they pay now—for 3 years. The extra funds will help the TSA meet a payment arrangement to satisfy a debt to Wayne County.

The organization owes more than \$500,000 for services it provided to the needy from 2001-2003 but could not afford, according to Bob Brown, the interim executive director for TSA.

Once the financial trouble was discov-

ered, Brown, who became interim director in October, immediately took measures to cut costs and repay the debt. Within two weeks of discovering the problem, Brown was able to meet with the county and make plans for a recovery.

"I think when you talk about county government, its unheard of that they reacted this quickly," Brown said. "But they didn't want to interrupt senior services—nobody wants The Senior Alliance to fail, everyone wants us to succeed in this."

He worked with county officials on a 3-year, no-interest repayment plan and the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging suggested that the alliance be put on a 1-year probation period in an effort to reorganize.

Brown said the organization has also reduced its pension plan by 15 percent, reduced employee headcount by more

than 10 percent and is currently reducing its phone bill by 20 percent in an effort to repay the debt. He also said TSA has already paid the county in full for 2004.

The special assessment Brown is asking for will help TSA continue to provide the services for homebound and needy elders in 34 communities.

"How do you tell a senior that we can't take your blood pressure; we can't deliver your meal; we can't deliver your meds today; we can't help you today because there are no more funds?" Brown said. "I can't look at it that way. What I have to look at is: I have a budget and that many services and what are the best services to give the seniors in my community."

TSA provides services such as in-house personal care, legal services and 118 seniors in Romulus benefit from the Meals on Wheels program. Holidays Meals

serves 99 seniors in Romulus.

"I can in no way see how we can not participate in this program," said Councilman Charles Miller at the meeting.

Communities that don't want to take advantage of the program may have to pay a heavier toll.

"If a community does not want to participate," Brown said, "the county will send out an invoice for, in the case of Romulus, what would be around \$12,000."

Council members agreed that it would be careless to not take advantage of the little money the alliance is requesting rather than pay a bill for three times the amount.

Despite the debt and the recent personnel cuts, Brown said services will continue in the same fashion they always have.

"We have always gotten high marks on the quality of the senior services we deliver," he said.

Literary club fundraiser benefits area First Step

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

WRomulus Literary Club members recently hosted the annual Christmas Tea fundraiser where 130 women gathered and donated gifts to benefit First Step, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping victims of domestic violence and sexual assault.

"We wanted to have a project to help in the community and we found First Step," said Midge Prybyla, who co-chairs the event with Mary Lee Treder. "It was something that our club could do and our women really enjoy it—it's women helping women."

First Step has been helping victims of domestic violence and sexual assault for more than 25 years in 35 communities in western Wayne County. They offer various programs for the victims and their families including individual or group counseling, education, resources, and shelters for victims as well as comprehensive child programs. They also have a 24-hour help line where victims can call and get help.

Despite the seriousness of the cause, the women of the Literary Club tried to maintain a jovial holiday spirit for the event.

Each of the 20 member was assigned a table, which they were responsible for decorating and filling with guests, according to Prybyla. In the end the room was transformed into a winter wonderland with fine china settings and beautiful centerpieces, she said.

Club members and their guests enjoyed an afternoon of tea and desserts as well as entertainment.

The event featured the club members in a holiday fashion show. Quinn's Essentials in Depot Town supplied the outfits, according to Prybyla. "We had so much fun," she said. Barbara Doyle also did a reading of the Spirit of Christmas.

Attendees were asked to bring a gift from the First Step Wish List, which included items such as clothing for women and children, dishware, appliances, toiletries, paper towels and toilet paper.

"We ask for household items," said Mary Jane Hood, associate director of First Step. Some of these victims are starting over and don't have anything."

Hood also said that they accept old cell phones that can be turned into 911 emergency phones or taken to a clearing house and receive funds for them. Phone and gas cards are also great donations, she said.

When everything was finished, First Step representatives stuffed all of the donations into two vans, which was about the same as last year, according to Prybyla, and took it to their storage facilities.

"We are so grateful to the Literary Club to have the benefit for our benefit," Hood said. "They are marvelous, hard-working women helping other women in need."

"People helping people in the community allow agencies like ours to exist."



Wick Elementary students, staff and Doubletree executives took part in the 2,004 cookies donated to the Michigan National Guard. In the first row is Donna Small, third grade teacher; Nakaila Claypool; Bianca Buckley; and Tyron Hamby. In the second row are Pamela Meadows, director of human resources; principal Debbie Jariga; Larry Feeback, Doubletree general manager; Sgt. Les Koren, Michigan National Guard; Wanda Sloane, sales manager; Stacey Mefford, third grade teacher.

Wick students donate cookies to National Guard

Students at Wick Elementary School teamed with the Romulus Doubletree Hotel to donate 2,004 cookies to Michigan National Guard units for Christmas.

As part of Doubletree's Teaching Kids to CARE Community Outreach Program, Wick students had the chance to vote and pick one of five groups that would receive more than

250,000 cookies from 100 Doubletrees across the United States, according to Larry Feeback, Doubletree general manager. He said the students learned the importance of voting and how their selection would help to determine the organization thought to be the most deserving.

The nationwide vote went to

the members of the military.

Sgt. Les Koren of the Michigan National Guard was on hand for the presentation and accepted the 2,004 cookies on behalf of the three Michigan units deployed to Iraq before the holidays, Michigan troops previously deployed in bases around the U.S. and military family holiday events for deployed units.

Toys

FROM PAGE 1

2,200 plant employees, continue to set the goal higher each year so more children can benefit.

"It's heart-warming to see people rally together for such a great cause," said Plant Manager Steve Somers. "They do it all for the kids."

Many of the employees hold separate fundraising events, from the week after Thanksgiving to the Friday before the event, to help raise additional money for the cause. The efforts include stir-fry, spaghetti dinner sales and hot dog sales.

"Our UAW members have an overwhelming compassion for this program," said Rick O'Donnell, UAW Local 163 bargaining chairman. "Hundreds of our employees donate their time and money

so that less fortunate children may have a decent holiday."

On the Saturday before the event, Marek and a host other volunteers from the plant converge on Toys 'R Us in Westland, which opens early just for the GM campaign, and buy the thousands of toys that will be given away to the western Wayne County division of the Toys for Tots program, which includes Romulus, Belleville, Inkster, Westland and Garden City.

"I love kids and I think every kid should have a toy for Christmas," said Carolyn Farabee, an employee of the plant on why she volunteers. "Every child deserves a toy for Christmas."

The Toys R' Us groups have become partners with GM. They not only open their doors early for the group, they also assemble the bikes at a discounted rate, according to Marek.

GM purchased safety helmets to go with each bicycle and the

Electronics Data Systems (EDS) division of GM donated \$3,500 toward the campaign.

"We hope our continuing emphasis on safety through donating helmets with each bike will help kids develop good safety skills," Somers said.

The program ends today at 1:30 p.m. with an event in the cafeteria of the plant. The Pride Center, along with the cafeteria, has been magically transformed into a winter wonderland complete with a Christmas tree ornamented with hats, gloves, scarves, clothes and coats. There is also a lighted candy cane archway, stockings, reindeer and a fireplace. And what would Christmas be with out a visit from Santa Claus and his sleigh filled with toys?

In the makeshift North Pole, 12 children, chosen and escorted by the Marines, will each select a bicycle and receive a toy from Santa Claus.

Director

FROM PAGE 1

ership they've been seeking and better communication between officials and citizens."

During the interview, Champagne said that his first tasks on the job would include a follow-up of the management study to determine what the department has done since then.

"I would like to start the evaluations first in the fire department then go on to the police depart-

ment because I'm concerned with the emergency management area," he said. "But the weaknesses in the public safety department are not unusual, this is a very strong department and the small problems will be easy to fix."

Al Smolen, township fire chief and stand-in public safety director, praised the final candidate.

"I can speak for both Lt. Ken Brooks and myself that we're very excited about the selection of the new director and we are anxious for him to come on board," he said.

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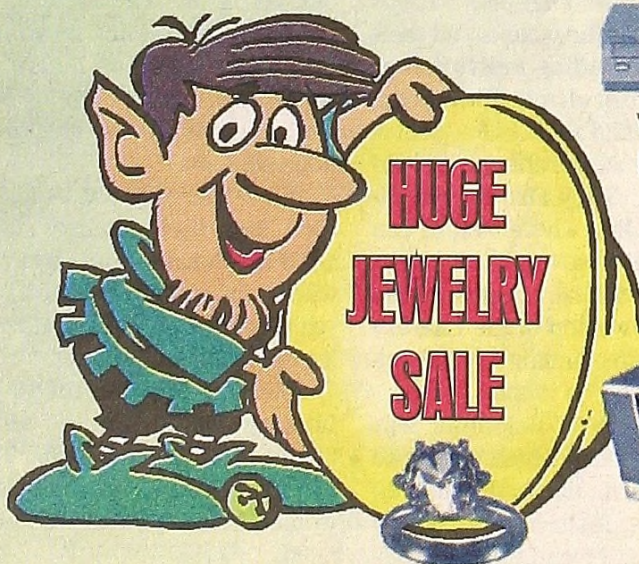
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OPINION

The spirit of radio

Sometimes the perfect solution to a problem comes at the perfect time.

That's the case in the City of Wayne, where a new informational radio station has debuted recently.

It's an unusual concept – a municipality with access to its own radio frequency that can be used to disseminate a wide variety of information to residents – but it's actually a classic example of good, nuts and bolts municipal government: a problem was recognized, a solution found and an idea implemented.

The problem was the previous mode of alerting residents to anything from snow emergencies to storm warnings: a city-wide public address system. It couldn't be heard everywhere, notably indoors during the winter, and where it could be heard it was difficult to understand. Actually, that's a bit of a euphemism. In our experience, the words that came across the address system sounded more like the adults in televised Peanuts cartoons than anything else.

The radio station – at 1620 AM – is a good answer. It's better than an email alert system, because while there may be residents who do not have a computer or could access one in the event of power outages, everyone has access to a radio. They run on batteries, too, so the information will still be available when the power is out and the station is bolstered by the generator at the department of public works building.

It can be updated almost instantly, from virtually anywhere, with a simple phone call.

City officials have said they intend to start small with the station, broadcasting basic information at first, and expanding the menu as it gains notoriety. Eventually, it will most likely be an excellent source of information on a variety of goings-on in the city.

It harkens back to the day when that's exactly what the radio provided: a constant source of information. Barring any Orson Welles-type pranks, it will most certainly be a valuable tool for residents.

It is, in fact, the spirit of radio.

A well considered decision

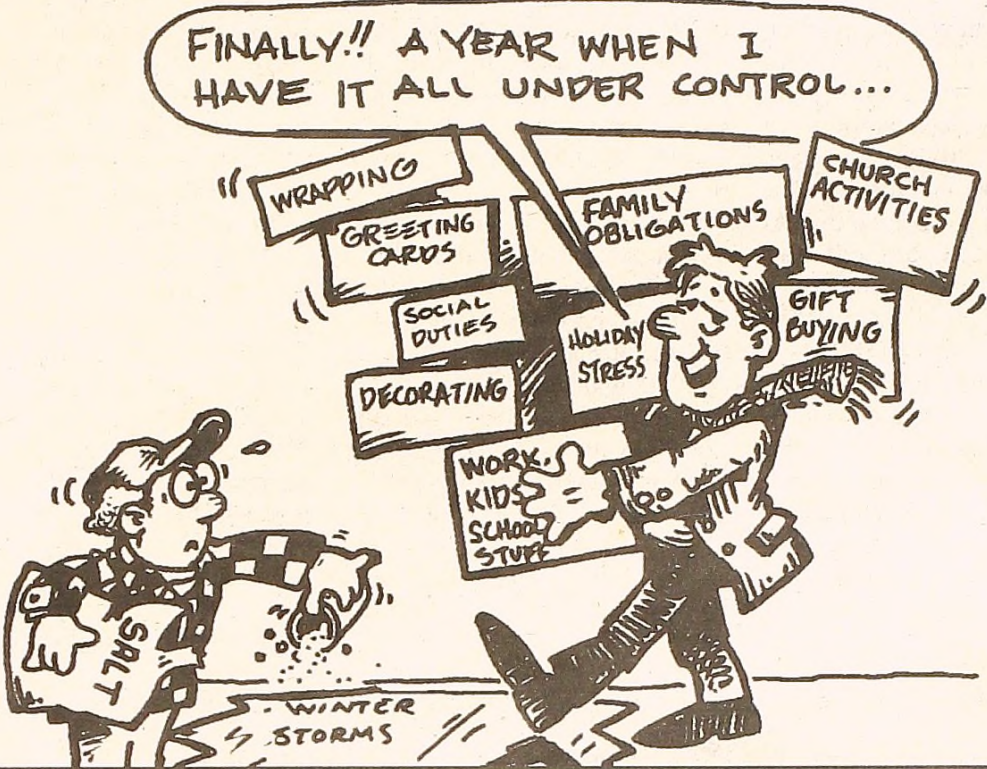
Officials in the City of Plymouth faced a difficult choice last week when they revisited the question of whether or not to continue an effort to revise the city charter.

The issue at hand was not the need to do it; an appointed Charter Review Committee found several items that should be cleaned up or changed. The issue was expense. The city, like other built-up communities with increasing costs and decreasing revenues, is in a locally infamous tight budget cycle. The city has already spent \$6,000 on the effort, and the next phase will cost about \$10,000, according to city officials. It might not seem like a lot of money, but when things are as tight as they are for the city, every expense must be evaluated before officials sign off on it.

In the end they decided to continue the effort, and it was the right choice to make.

City officials couldn't predict how bad their budget situation would be when they started the charter revision effort about 2 years ago. Those that volunteered to go through the charter and look for potential revisions did so with good faith that their efforts would be listened to and followed up on. Let's face it: pouring through a municipal charter is not the most entertaining task in the world. There are no doubt many other activities that the members of the committee would have rather enjoyed; it wouldn't be a surprise if a visit to the dentist were on that list. Putting off the charter revision effort would almost a proverbial slap in the face.

See Charter, page 6



One of my personal favorites

One of my favorite programs in the City of Wayne is one that doesn't get a whole lot of recognition.

That's probably my fault for not writing about it as often as I should, but I've only got so many fingers to type with and so much space in the paper, to begin with.

Anyway, the program is the Employee Suggestion Awards. Other communities may have a system where their employees can make suggestions that make their jobs easier, save their cities money and help out the residents, but I don't know of one where the winners are given a monetary award and recognition through the city council.

It makes sense, though. The people who are in their positions, day after day, are the ones most likely to know how to improve efficiencies – and everyone knows that improved efficiency will ultimately save money, which is what virtually every resident looks for their government to do. They want them to spend their money wisely.

The way the program works in Wayne is that employees fill out suggestions all year round, and a small committee meets to discuss them. Some they discard, others they approve. Winners get an award of either \$25, \$50 or \$100.

Again this year, the sugges-

tions took a variety of forms. The winner was a suggestion to create a link on the city web site for residents to get email communications regarding activities in the city. Coupled with a recently-implemented radio station – at 1620 AM – it will help get the information out about a city happenings.

Other suggestions include putting a No Turn on Red Sign at the intersection of Sims and Wayne roads, probably an unpop-

I congratulate everyone who takes their job seriously enough to try to improve it, and to the city for listening.

ular choice for people as impatient as I am, but it'll help make that a safer corner which is important given its proximity to the senior residences and the Senior Activity Center.

There was a suggestion to put a diaper disposal receptacle in the restrooms at the Community Center – there isn't a place to dispose of them near the changing centers, now. As a dad who is near the tail end of the whole potty training thing (I hope), I can tell you I wish this had been

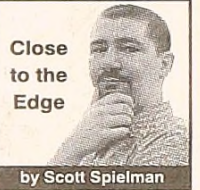
implemented 2 years ago.

Another was to provide a season-long open skate pass for the community center.

Other suggestions ranged from cost-saving ideas, like one to establish a long distance carrier for long distance calls, which would save \$15.95 for city buildings or a simple additional lease of two or three spare oxygen bottles which will help keep down delivery and regulatory charges.

Others were designed to help reduce blight, like my personal favorite to install a bike rack by the public bus stop on Michigan Avenue. It's a subtle thing, really, but it can still have a big impact. There's something much more inviting about a community with bikes locked to racks rather than around poles or trees; it says the community welcomes bikers, rather than tolerates them. In fact, I'd like to see a few more around town.

There were plenty of other good ideas, too, but like I said, I don't have space for them all. In fact, that's a positive sign in and of itself. It's easy to see why it's one of my favorite programs, though. I congratulate everyone who takes their job seriously enough to try to improve it, and to the city for listening



Close to the Edge
by Scott Spielman

Vitamins fuel the human engine

In Michigan, we know a lot about automobiles. We've become familiar with phrases such as "a well running engine requires oil every so many miles" or "you must keep the fluid levels at specified manufacturers suggested amounts" so that the engine won't lose performance.

The human body runs much the same way – it uses food to manufacture all of its building blocks and provide fuel. Vitamins assist us with some essential processes:

- Regulating blood sugar levels and blood pressure
- Converting food to energy
- Bolstering the immune system

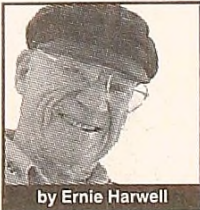
In other words, vitamins, in food or as supplements, help us to live.

Making a healthy diet can be hard in these fast-paced times. Talk with your doctor about your diet and whether you may need to supplement it with vitamins and nutrients.

And remember, take care of your health before it's lonnggg gone!

Ernie Harwell, "the voice of the Detroit Tigers" for more than four

decades, retired after 55 years behind a major league microphone. Today, at age 86, Ernie's days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan and Blue Care Network, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with "Miss Lulu," his wife of more than 60 years. His latest book, a collection of his baseball columns titled "Life After Baseball," is available at local bookstores or by calling 1-800-245-5082.



by Ernie Harwell

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Letters

Resident questions city plans

To the editor;

Several months ago, I read an article about the Penn Theatre. The owners were planning an eating place on the main floor, and living spaces above. Why? With no theater, (and no book store) there is nothing to do in Plymouth, but eat and sleep. If they can go up, in the building, why not make another theater, and show two different movies at the same time?

A small town with a downtown area, such as Plymouth, needs the cinema. Dinner and a movie, isn't that what people do? The space next door could've been for desserts only. This town is going nowhere, when we accept getting rid of, and tearing down what

makes it the town.

Another topic: Central Middle School. Will that be torn down to? Have you ever been to the Livonia Y, and then to the Plymouth Y? What's the difference? Couldn't the school building be a Y? It already has a gym, a pool, etc.

I really don't see much progressive thinking/ideas for this town. I moved here with the intention of staying out my days, but I don't feel that way anymore.

Do they need a partner, financial help, what can I do? Especially since they let the tree die, I think things need to be stirred up around this town.

Audrey Redmann,
Plymouth

Group thanks donors

To the editor:

The Southwestern Wayne and Romulus Club would like to extend our warmest wishes and appreciation to the following individuals, organizations and businesses for their generous donations to our Holiday Dinner Fundraiser;

UAW Region 1A Jimmy Settles, Applebee's, Lodge Lanes, Casino's Pizzeria, Kathy and Lonny Smith, Red Apple Restaurant, Mammoth Video, Dimitri's Restaurant, Tim Horton's, Merriman Street Grill, A & A Oil Change (Romulus), Subway (Eureka Road.), Pharmacy Outlet (Romulus), Big Boy (Belleville), Belleville Grill, Bayou Grill.

Sharon Curson
Jack Trumble
SWDC President
Romulus President

Charter

FROM PAGE 5

Much of the work has already been done, now. The revisions have been proposed, and it's merely a matter of forming up an official Charter Review Commission – which is different from the committee in that it is an elected body – to formalize the proposed changes in order for them to be put on the ballot.

That's an important thing to remember, too, that these proposed changes will not happen if

voters do not approve them. It's a long and tedious process, all the more so because it is such an important one. It will have an impact on the way the city is operated until the next revision effort, whenever that may be.

It will be interesting to see if the people who volunteered to go through the first part of the process will be willing to take part in the next. We hope so, because the work they've done so far has been solid.

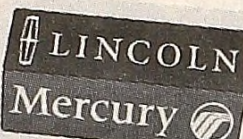
It has, in fact, warranted the decision to move on with the issue, however difficult it may be to squeeze into the budget.

Send us your letters

The Journal welcomes all signed letters to the editor and will consider all submissions for publication. Mail letters to:

The Journal · P.O. Box 701422, Plymouth, Mich 48170.

Letters may be edited for content or space and must include a phone number for verification of identity.



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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 7, 2004

Supervisor King called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor King, Clerk Payne, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Herman, Trustee Jahr and Trustee Rochowiak. Absent and excused: None. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Kelley, Recreation and Facilities Director Ross, Deputy Public Safety Director Smolen, Lieutenant Brooks, Planning and Zoning Administrator Pugsley, Water and Sewer Director Duha, Parks Manager Averill, Executive Assistant Ireland, Secretary Cline and an audience of twenty (20).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda with the following amendment: under “Reports” add “Briarwood Estates Subdivision Report”. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: Hart moved, Rochowiak seconded to open the public hearing to consider the 2004 Amended General Fund Budget and the 2005 Proposed General Fund Budget. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing stating the Board has been provided with the General Fund Budget which covers the operations of the Township including Public Safety, which includes Police, Fire, Emergency Dispatch, Emergency Management and Animal Control, Developmental Services, Parks and Recreation, the administrative functions provided by the Clerk, Treasurer and Supervisor Offices, including Assessing, Elections, Accounting, Attorneys, Insurances and Environmental Services. The Charter Township Act requires charter townships to have an approved, balanced budget for the next fiscal year. Treasurer Budd thanked the Directors and the Board for their efforts in preparing the 2004 Amended and 2005 Proposed General Fund Budgets. She stated the Budget before the Board is balanced and expenditures for the 2004 Proposed Budget were \$10,832,260 and the 2004 Amended Budget has been lowered to \$10,530,346. Treasurer Budd explained the difference between the approved and amended 2004 budget being due to Fire Trucks that were purchased in 2004 and paid for through the Landfill Fund. The 2005 Proposed expenditures are \$11,775,738. Treasurer Budd stated the Public Safety Department is the largest department and further stated the Public Safety Department goals and objectives are included in the budget as well as the department’s funding sources

Supervisor King stated the 2004 General Fund Amended budget has been reduced equating to about a 3 percent reduction from what was originally budgeted due to funding source for a capital outlay purchase. The proposed 2005 General Fund budget reflects about a 10 percent increase. Supervisor King stated Treasurer Budd has provided the board with documents that show the revenues. Van Buren is a Charter Township by Resolution with the exception of the Public Safety revenues that were voted in by the people of 3 mills operates on the 1 mill from property tax that provided roughly \$671,000 for 2004 in revenue and proposed for 2005 is roughly \$740,000. Public Safety Revenue generated from the 3-mill renewal of the Public Safety Millage is \$2.4 million for 2005. She noted that both of these revenues are rolled back by the Headlee Act. State Shared Revenue, which formerly provided 25 percent of the revenue stream, has been reduced over the past several years with \$1.9 million budgeted for 2005 due to declining revenues from the State of Michigan. Supervisor King noted Van Buren is a developing community and the growth increases revenues such as building related permits. 2005 revenues projected from permits and fees are \$1.3 million. There are other revenue streams provided in the budget and the total for all revenues for the 2005 proposed budget is \$8 million. Fund Balance provides an additional revenue stream with transfers of \$148,000 from the Reserved Fund Balance, \$256,000 from the Unreserved Fund Balance and \$3 million from the Landfill Fund for the 2005 proposed budget. The budget sets forth line items for expenditures for each department and explanations of designated fund balance. Supervisor King further stated wage increases for salaried employees are set at 3 percent for 2005 and other documents included in the budget are as follows: Public Safety goals; Resolution that sets the millage; two graphs one for Revenue and the other for Expenditures. Lastly, budget preparation meetings were held in October. There were no comments or questions from the Board or the audience.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Jahr moved, Herman seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

Jahr moved, Payne seconded to open the public hearing to receive public comment on the 2004 Amended Special Revenue Fund Budgets and the 2005 Proposed Special Revenue Fund Budgets. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Treasurer Budd for an explanation. Treasurer Budd stated the following are the Special Revenue Funds: Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), Downtown Development Authority (DDA), French Landing Improvement Project, Capital Improvement Fund, Federal Forfeiture Fund, State Forfeiture Fund, Landfill Fund, Belleville Area Museum, E-911 Service Fund, Cable Fund, Hannan Road Special Assessment District, Bemis Road Special Assessment District and Lohr Road Special Assessment District. The French Landing Improvement Project has been completed and the interest balance has been transferred into the General Fund. In addition, she stated the Hannan Road Special Assessment District has been completed and the interest balance also has been transferred into the General Fund. Treasurer Budd stated Director Wilson does a good job with the limited funds available for the Museum.

Supervisor King stated the Museum Fund is being funded by Van Buren Township and the City of Belleville and the Museum began with the following three communities Van Buren Township, City of Belleville and Sumpter Township and noted that Sumpter Township has not provided funding for some time and further stated the Township would welcome any amount of funding they could contribute. Supervisor King reviewed the DDA 2005 proposed budget expenditures of roughly \$932,000 and noted reserves for Public Safety Facilities including a new Fire Station. Capital Improvements completed in 2004 include fencing around the cemeteries and improvements to the Animal Shelter and in 2005 funds are reserved for improvements to the township hall security system and building repairs. The Capital Improvement Fund balance for 2005 is approximately \$490,000. The Landfill Fund Revenues from

gate yard fees for the proposed 2005 is approximately \$2.2 million. A transfer of \$2.9 million will be transferred into the General Fund for general operations. In addition, general royalties will be transferred into the General Fund as follows: \$200,000 for Public Safety, \$50,000 for Environmental and \$100,000 for Parks and Recreation. The new pole barn at Van Buren Park was paid for by a transfer from the Landfill Funding to the Capital Improvement Fund. The Landfill Fund total Expenditures for 2004 were \$3.3 million leaving a fund balance of approximately \$8 million.

There were no comments from the Board or audience.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Herman moved, Budd seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Hart seconded to receive public comment on special assessment roll for the purpose of assessing a portion of the costs of the development of design and construction plans to repave public roads and related storm water improvements and work incidental thereto within the Engineering Special Assessment District of the Belle Harbor and Lake Crest Subdivisions. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Director Kelley for an explanation. Director Kelley stated the property owners in the Lake Crest and Belle Harbor Subdivisions are requesting the Board approve a special assessment roll for the purpose of assessing a portion of the costs of the development of design and construction plans to repave public roads and related storm water improvements in their subdivision. This project has been discussed for many years and the Board approved establishing this special assessment district a previous meeting. If the resolution is approved the next step would be for the engineering firm, to provide all drawings and documents necessary to advertise the construction project for bidding. There are 199 parcels in the combined two subdivisions with the special assessment to be spread over 197 parcels due to two common outlots that allow access to the lake edge to be spread over the remaining 197 parcels. The cost of the contract of the engineering contract with Spaulding DeDecker Associates, Inc. is \$127,250. The special assessment for each property owner is \$642.88 plus interest which is to be spread over three years; with yearly payment of \$240.43. There is also an opportunity to make one payment of the full amount \$642.88 without interest.

Board members made the following comments: This subdivision is better known as the Harmony Lane Subdivision and were glad to see this item on the agenda.

There were no comments from the audience.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Payne moved, Herman seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

Hart moved, Payne seconded to open the public hearing to receive public comment and discuss possible projects for the fiscal year 2005-2006 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Planning and Zoning Administrator Pugsley for an explanation. Administrator Pugsley stated this is the first of two public hearings regarding the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. Administrator Pugsley stated we are seeking comments from the public for potential projects that would meet the CDBG funding guidelines. The three national objectives for projects are: to benefit low/moderate income persons, prevent or eliminate slum and/or blight and to meet urgent community needs. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) objectives of the CDBG program are for the development of viable communities by providing decent housing and a suitable living environment and expanding economic opportunities. The following are some of the past projects: Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) improvements at the Museum, Fire equipment, Senior Citizen programs, ADA playground equipment, planning and design in community areas such as Riggs and Quirk Parks, demolition of unsafe structures, housing rehabilitations, services for low income youth for recreational programs, and Administration for General Administration costs. The estimated funding level for the 2005 – 2006 fiscal year is \$153,000. The fiscal year begins on July 1, 2005 and applications are due to Wayne County CDBG by March 1, 2005. There will be a second public hearing in January. Residents are encouraged to submit ideas for possible projects to the Department of Developmental Services through Administrator Pugsley at 734.699.8913, in writing or via Van Buren Township’s website at www.spuglsey@vanburen-mi.org.

Supervisor King stated at the second public hearing there will be a proposed list of projects.

Clerk Payne stated these are some of the last Federal dollars that do come back to local communities.

There were no comments from the audience.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Budd moved, Herman seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to open the public hearing to present and discuss expanding the use of Township’s Revolving Loan Fund from the Community Development Block Grant Program to include property acquisition, demolition and housing rehabilitation subject to compliance with United States Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Planning and Zoning Administrator Pugsley for an explanation. Administrator Pugsley stated the township has an existing Revolving Loan Fund for housing rehabilitation. Funds are accumulated when liens are paid off from completed projects such as repairs to homes for low to moderate-income families. The no interest loans are paid back through the lien process when the repaired homes are either refinanced or sold. The request before the Board is to add the following categories to the Revolving Loan Fund. 1) Property acquisition for the construction of new homes for eligible low to moderate-income families. 2) Demolish dilapidated, unsafe homes and accessory structures that have a

Continued from page 7

income families. 2) Demolish dilapidated, unsafe homes and accessory structures that have a blighting influence on a local neighborhood. 3) To provide loans to eligible low to moderate income families for housing repairs such as new roofs, new furnaces, structural damage, or new windows (current category). Administrative Pugsley stated all of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) rules and regulations must be followed

Director Kelley provided a memo containing further information in regard to the new category of Property Acquisition. Director Kelley stated earlier this year Habitat for Humanity met with the township officials seeking support for the construction of a Habitat home for an eligible area family. The support requested was for a donation of a parcel of land; typically Habitat only has budgets to build houses and little funding to purchase land. The Township does own several tax reverted parcels. The State of Michigan Constitution prohibits the State and/or a municipality from giving away the funds, interests or credit of the citizens of the State of Michigan. This would mean Habitat would need to buy the property. Knowing other communities have done so the Township then investigated with Wayne County CDBG a means by which to assist them. Director Kelley stated the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund would purchase the property from the Township at market value. This public hearing is to hear public comments on the 2004 CDBG program; and later to act on moving a portion of the 2004 Program's Revolving Fund from recoverable status to a non-recoverable status; and approve the proposed amended 2004 CDBG program. Upon favorable approval tonight, the next step would be to have Wayne County approve the plan. Lastly, Director Kelley stated township staff felt there was measurable value to donate a reverted parcel to Habitat although the Board grants approval. It would be a direct and straight forward transaction; it appears to be the "right thing to do" in so far as addressing affordable housing in the township; and it would return the parcel to taxable status and therefore a source of revenue.

Board members had lengthy discussion about the addition of the property acquisition category and the process to be used. Members requested further information regarding the rules and regulations from CDBG. Treasurer Budd clarified there are two separate CDBG funds, one is Program fund monies with a category to rehabilitate housing where a lien is placed on the home, and when the home is refinanced or sold the lien is collected and placed into the CDBG Revolving Loan Fund. The second is if the Board allows the expansion of the categories in the Revolving Loan Fund then those funds could be allocated to purchase property through Revolving Loan Funds. There are still properties that have liens on them that will be repaid to the township CDBG Fund which would increase the amount of the Revolving Loan Fund.

Administrator Pugsley stated this is a perpetual fund with monies reverting back into the Revolving Loan Fund from previous year(s) rehabilitation and he does not feel the funds would be depleted.

There were no comments from the audience.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Hart moved, Payne seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

Herman moved, Jahr seconded to open the public hearing to receive public comment on special use approval request from Walgreen Company to operate a 24 hour pharmacy and drive-thru pickup window on a parcel of land known as 10276 Belleville Road, parcel # V125-83-061-99-0005-722, zoned C-2 (Extensive Highway Business) located on the west side of Belleville Road between the I-94 Expressway and Tyler Road. . Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Director Kelley. Director Kelley stated after opening its store on Belleville Road earlier this summer, the Walgreen Company applied for an amendment to its special use approval previously granted by the Board of Trustees. The applicant is seeking approval to operate its pharmacy retail store with a drive-thru pickup window 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. The original special use approval was for operation less than 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. The Planning Commission review of facts and findings on the request noted the following actions: 1) The addition of "24 Hour" signs on the east and south faces of the building and alteration of the sign panel on the monument sign at the southeast corner of the Walgreen site. 2) Compliance with cycle length of the reader board message on the monument sign at the southeast corner of the Walgreen site, this item has already been addressed by the applicant. 3) Reduction in the intensity and glare of the reader board lights in the monument sign at the southeast corner of the Walgreen site, this item has already been addressed by the applicant and there has been a substantial change. 4) Amending the store's operating hours to 24 hours/day, 7 days/week. The Planning Commission held a public hearing and recommend the Board approve the special use approval.

Supervisor King stated the first special use approval was granted in June 2003.

Board members commented on the efforts of the Planning Commission in regard to sign revisions to change the speed and brightness of the reader board. Director Kelley stated the Planning Commission is currently addressing reader board signs in the Zoning Ordinance. Additional information relayed included past experience with 24 hour operations and their negligible effect on public safety.

A resident inquired about the Belle Harbor and Lake Crest Subdivisions road project? Supervisor King recapped what had taken place in the public hearing held earlier and stated the action item will take place later in the meeting.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Hart moved, Jahr seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

MINUTES: Jahr moved, Budd seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of November 15, 2004 as presented. Carried.

Payne moved Hart seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of November 16, 2004 as amended with the following correction on page 3 the first paragraph "Roll Call Vote: Yeas: King, Payne, Budd and Herman. Nays: None. Absent and excused: Herman and Rochowiak. Abstention: Jahr. Carried." should read "Roll Call Vote: Yeas: King, Payne, Budd and Herman. Nays: None. Absent

and excused: Hart and Rochowiak. Abstention: Jahr. Carried." and for minor typographical errors. Carried.

Rochowiak moved Hart seconded to approve the Special Board Meeting Minutes of November 30, 2004 as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Service awards were given to the following employees Richard Hamill and David Schuler for five years of service and Ken Brooks for twenty-five years of service.

Supervisor King announced Deputy Chief Smolen has received Medical First Responder Certification.

An email from a resident expressing thanks to Sergeant Thornsby and Sergeant Floro for their efforts in apprehending a criminal in a recent incident.

Correspondence from a local resident thanking the Public Safety Department for conducting property checks while they were away.

A thank you from Denver's mother for allowing her son to ride on the Fire Truck at the recent Christmas Parade.

A communication from Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano and Wayne County Sheriff Warren Evans stating the Sheriff's Department will continue to provide out county sheriff prisoner transportation.

A letter of congratulations from Representative McCotter to Director Ross on Van Buren Township being the recipient of the Governors Council Award for promoting active communities for the third consecutive year.

A letter from Patrick Hogan the Director of Wayne County Roads Division in regard to the condition of Belleville Road stating the repaving project between Van Born and Tyler Roads will not be completed until Spring of 2005 due to the weather and the road condition will be monitored throughout the winter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: Hart moved, Payne seconded to approve the 2004 Amended General Fund Budget and the 2005 Proposed General Fund Budget as outlined in Treasurer Budd's memo dated November 23, 2004, noting items A through F inclusive. Carried.

Payne moved, Herman seconded to approve the 2004 Amended Special Revenue Fund Budgets and the 2005 Proposed Special Revenue Fund Budgets [CDBG, DDA, French Landing Improvement Project, Capital Improvement Fund, Federal Forfeiture Fund, State Forfeiture Fund, Landfill Fund, Belleville Area Museum, 911 Service Fund, Cable Fund, Hannan Road Special Assessment District, Bemis Road Special Assessment District and Lohr Road Special Assessment District], as outlined in Treasurer Budd's memo dated November 22, 2004, noting items A through D inclusive. Carried.

Herman moved, Hart seconded to adopt Resolution 2004-40 establishing the Special Assessment Roll for the purpose of assessing a portion of the costs of the development of design and construction plans to repave public roads and related storm water improvements and work incidental thereto in the Belle Harbor and Lake Crest Subdivisions in Sections 21 and 22 of the Township with in Belle Harbor and Lake Crest Subdivisions Engineering Special Assessment District. Carried.

Payne moved, Budd seconded to approve the use of the Township's Revolving Loan Fund from the Community Development Block Grant Program to include property acquisition, demolition and housing rehabilitation subject to compliance with United States Department of Housing and Urban Development regulations. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Payne, Budd, Rochowiak and King. Nays: Hart, Herman and Jahr. Absent: None. Carried.

Jahr moved, Hart seconded to grant special use approval to Walgreen Company to operate a 24 hour pharmacy and drive-thru pickup window on a parcel of land known as 10276 Belleville Road, parcel V125-83-061-99-0005-722, zoned C-2 (Extensive Highway Business) and located on the west side of Belleville Road between I-94 Expressway and Tyler Road, based on the facts and findings of the Planning Commission, the planning consultant's letter dated November 4, 2004 and the payment and issuance of all fees, bonds and permits. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Jahr seconded to approve the Water & Sewer Fund amended 2004 Budget and the Water & Sewer Fund proposed 2005 Budget, as recommended by the Water and Sewer Commission. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Payne seconded to adopt Resolution 2004-41 approving the Water & Sewer Department Schedule of Rates effective January 1, 2005 as recommended by the Water and Sewer Commission. Carried.

Budd moved, Rochowiak seconded to adopt Resolution 2004-42 Wayne County Downriver Collection System Settlement of Legal Action and Termination of Consent Decree. Carried.

Payne moved, Budd seconded to approve the contract between the Charter Township of Van Buren and Mr. Vincent Averill for the position of Deputy Director of Recreation and Facilities [effective January 1, 2005] and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement. Carried.

Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve the reappointments of Anita Parsons, Cindy Perala and Tom Kryza to the Board of Review with terms to expire December 31, 2006. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Payne seconded to approve Wade-Trim's proposal dated November 19, 2004 to prepare a Basis of Design and State Revolving Fund (SRF) Project Plan for wet weather equalization basin on a time-and-materials basis, using the Wade-Trim rate schedule in effect at the time the work is performed, at a cost not exceed \$134,000, and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the acceptance of

Continued on page 10

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD NOVEMBER 22, 2004 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ROMULUS CITY HALL, 11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tem Randolph Gear.
Present: LeRoy Burcroff, William Crova, Randolph Gear, Charles Miller, Michael Prybyla, Debbie Romak, William Wadsworth.

Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Alan Lambert, Mayor
Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
Pamela Morrison/Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

1. Motion by Romak, supported by Wadsworth to approve the agenda as amended.*

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-457

2. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crova to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held November 8, 2004.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller.
Nays -None.
Abstain - Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Motion Carried.

3A. No Action Taken.

04-458

3B. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Crova to schedule a public hearing on Monday, December 13, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174 to consider an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate pursuant to P.A. 198 of 1974 as amended for Southview Gladiolus Farms, 35935 Ecorse Road, Romulus, Michigan, 48174.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-459

3C. Motion by Crova, supported by Wadsworth to concur With the Romulus Police Department and recommend approval to Concessions Michigan, L.L.C., request to drop County of Wayne and add Wayne County Airport Authority as Co-licensee in a 2003 Class C Licensed Business located at McNamara Terminal known as Budweiser Brewhouse, Space 4-1 (ID#219917).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-460

3D. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Romak to concur with the Romulus Police Department and recommend approval to Michigan Host, Inc., to drop County of Wayne and add Wayne County Airport Authority and Airport Group L.L.C. as Co-licensee in a 2003 Class C Licensed Business and an after-hours permit for the sale of food and nine (9) bars located in Terminal Building I (ID#233002).

-Roll Call Vote Showin g: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays -None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-461

3E. Motion by Romak, supported by Wadsworth to concur with the Romulus Police Department and recommend approval to Northwest Airlines, Inc., request to drop County of Wayne and add Wayne County Airport Authority as Co-Licensee in a 2004 Class C Licensed Business located at Midfield Terminal, World Club (ID#259468).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-462

3F. Motion by Crova, supported by Romak to concur with the Romulus Police Department and recommend approval to Northwest Airlines, Inc., to drop County of Wayne and add Wayne County Airport Authority as Co-Licensee in a 2004 Class C Licensed Business located at Midfield Terminal, Concourse B Club. (ID#259470)

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-463

3G. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Burcroff to concur with the Romulus Police Department and recommend approval to Northwest Airlines, Inc., request to drop County of Wayne and add Wayne County Airport Authority as Co-Licensees in a 2004 Class C Licensed Business located at Midfield Terminal, North Club. (ID#259471).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-464

3H. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to concur with the Romulus Police Department and recommend approval to Northwest Airlines, Inc., request to drop County of Wayne and add Wayne County Airport Authority as Co-Licensee in a 2004 Class C Licensed Business located at Midfield Terminal, South Club (ID#259472).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-465

4A. Motion by Romak, supported by Crova to adopt a memorial resolution to the family of Reverend Lonnie England.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Burcroff to accept the Chairman’s Report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-466

5A. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to introduce Budget Amendment 04/05-8:

Fund/Dept. Account NO.	Account Name	Current Budget	Amendment	Amended Budget
Sanitation Expenditures				
226-4710-747.74-10	Recycling	246,696	(3,500)	243,196
226-4710-747.74-96	Tax Tribunal Refunds	2,000	1,500	3,500
Fund Balance		Available	Appropriate	Balance
Sanitation		239,610	(2,000)	241,610

To adjust FY05 Budget Appropriations in the Sanitation Fund.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-467

5B. Motion by Wadsworth, supported by Burcroff to authorize payment of the Michigan Municipal League 2004, 2005 annual membership dues in the amount of \$7,320.00.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-468

5C. Motion by Romak, supported by Burcroff to concur with the Policy and Procedure Committee and adopt language change retroactive to November 13, 2001, and amend Policy #18, page 46 as follows: “Any employee of the City of Romulus promoted from a bargaining unit position to a non-bargaining unit position shall be given a 60-day window of opportunity to elect in writing, to continue to receive the benefits afforded to them from the bargaining unit they left or receive the benefits offered by the new position”.

FRINGE BENEFITS

Fringe benefits are as follows: health insurance, dental insurance, life insurance, long/short term disability insurance, pension contributions, vacation/personal business/sick time and retirement package.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-469

6A1. Motion by Romak, supported by Burcroff to concur with the recommendation of City Assessor Julie Albert and award the following city owned parcels, items 1 thru 4, and to extend time allotted for construction to two years due to multiple issues with the titles:

- 1). 014 03 0053 000 to Paul Witherow in the amount of \$1,000.00
- 2). 014 03 0054 000 to Paul Witherow in the amount of \$1,000.00
- 3). 014 03 0055 000 to Paul Witherow in the amount of \$1,000.00
- 4). 014 03 0056 000 to Paul Witherow in the amount of \$1,000.00

Also, to award the city owned parcel number 014 03 0243 000 to Mr. Thomas Maycock in the amount of \$1,000.00 (with no other bids or offers received on this parcel).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth. Nays - None. Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-470

6A2. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to schedule a Study Session on December 6, 2004 at 6:45 p.m. to discuss the Wayne County Grant availability for the Rouge River Watershed and to schedule a Study Session on December 6, 2004 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the City’s Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Program (SESC) in Romulus City Hall Council Chamber, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak,

Continued on page 11

Local 4-H club will help needy area families

Andrea King
Staff Writer

This weekend, some Belleville families could be in for a surprise when an extra member of the family arrives to bring some holiday cheer.

The Sugarplum 4H members are working to make this holiday season a little brighter by donating their time, money and effort to needy families in the Belleville area.

According to Dave Sauers, group leader of the club, members have participated in an adopt-a-family program for more than 10 years.

"Usually we do it silently. Not too many people know about it," he said.

But not this year. This year, Sauers is asking for help from the community so he and his sugarplums can provide much-needed food, toys and other gifts to families in time for Christmas.

"There are a lot of families out there that need help, even if it's just a pat on the back," he said. "Sure, you have other groups that help out the cause, but they can't do everything so we do our part to help."

As part of the adopt-a-family program, the club collects money and donations once a year to purchase food and other necessities for several chosen needy families. Sauers receives a Christmas wish list from the children of the family to purchase the gifts, and when the shopping is done, both the gifts and Christmas dinner are delivered to their homes by Santa Claus. The families are chosen through referrals from churches, schools and other local organizations.

The 4-H clubs, which stands for head, hands, heart and health, are located throughout the state. The youth organization is for children up to age 19. It was created to give young people a place to experience raising animals and other activities, while teaching them how to work together.

"We all have a good time here," said Sauers. Recently, the Sugarplum

4H hosted a benefit at the Wayne County Fairgrounds to generate funds for the adopt-a-family program. The benefit did not generate as much as Sauers had hoped, but it did generate toy donations and some money that will go toward the purchase of more toys, canned food, and other presents.

"Any money that is generated or donated will go toward the adopt-a-family program," added Sauers. "The more we get, the more we can help other people." For more information, call Sauers at 734-699-1387.

Continued from page 8
the proposal. Carried.

Payne moved, Budd seconded to adopt Ordinance 12-07-04(1), to amend the Township Zoning Map, a part of Ordinance, 6-2-92, as amended to rezone parcels of land known as V125-83-108-99-0010-000, V125-83-108-99-0011-000, V125-83-108-99-0005-000 and V125-83-108-99-0004-000 from AG (Agriculture/Estate) to R-1A (Low Density Residential), as ordered by the Wayne County Circuit Court in the matter of Case Number 01-122670-NZ, and Township's legal counsel recommendation. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Hart, Herman, Payne, Rochowiak, Jahr, Budd and King. Nays: None. Absent: None. Carried.

*(A copy of Ordinance 12-07-04(1) follows the minutes. Copies may also be obtained in the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

Hart moved, Budd seconded to approve advising the Cable Commission that the Commission will remain in place, with regular meetings of the Commission ceasing, and with future Commission meetings to be held on an infrequent basis as warranted by the franchise agreement or circumstance, said changes to be effective immediately. Carried.

Budd moved, Herman seconded to approve the appointment of Trustee Hart as its representative to the Public Safety Committee to be effective January 1, 2005, and that we gratefully acknowledge the many years Trustee Rochowiak served the on that committee. Carried.

Payne moved, Budd seconded to approve entering into employment contract negotiations with Gerald Champagne to serve as Director of Public Safety and to authorize the Supervisor to commence employment contract negotiations. Carried.

Hart moved, Jahr seconded to approve the first reading of General Ordinance 12-07-04(2) to amend Ordinance 03-23-76 (Section 86-256) to revise rates and charges and to amend Ordinance 03-03-92(2), S1(112.090) to revise delinquency, penalty and lien provisions for all users of water and sewer services. Carried.

*(A copy of the synopsis of Ordinance 12-07-04(2) follows the minutes. Copies may also be obtained in the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

VOUCHER LIST: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the December 7, 2004 voucher list as presented. Carried.

REPORTS: Supervisor King ordered the Briarwood Estates Subdivision Report received and filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: On Friday, December 17th at 7:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church located on Church Street in the City of Belleville the Community Band will hold a Holiday Concert.

The Belleville Area Museum is currently hosting the 'Festival of Trees'.

On Saturday, December 11th and December 18th Santa Claus will be at the Museum, also a Children's Ornament Workshop will be held on December 18th.

Township Administrative Offices will be closed on Friday, December 24th and Monday, December 27th for the Christmas Holiday and on Friday, December 31st and Monday, January 3rd for the for the New Year holiday.

The Recreation Department will host a brunch with Santa on Sunday, December 12th at 11:00 a.m. For further information on programs and events contact the Recreation Department at 734.699.8921.

The September Day's Senior Holiday Dinner Dance will be held Friday, December 17th.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): None.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Jahr moved, Herman seconded to adjourn at 10:36 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King
Township Supervisor

Publish: December 16, 2004

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN ORDINANCE 12-07-04(1) PROPOSED REZONING MAP

Reading of ordinance for adoption.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ZONING ORDINANCE 6-6-92, AS AMENDED, OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN ORDAINS:

Section 1. The Zoning Map in connection with the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Van Buren shall be amended so that the zoning of the following described property to wit:

Ordinance Number 12-07-04(1)

To rezone parcel number(s): Parcel numbers V-125-83-108-99-0010-000, V-125-83-108-99-0011-000, V-125-83-108-99-0005-000, V-125-83-108-99-0004-000 from AG (Agriculture/Estate) to R-1A (Low Density Residential) located at the northwest corner of the intersection of Martinsville and Hull Roads.

Legal Description of Property:

Parcel number V-125-83-108-99-0010-000, V-125-83-108-99-0011-000, V-125-83-108-99-0005-000, V-125-83-108-99-0004-000 located

at the northwest corner of the intersection of Martinsville and Hull Roads.

Section 2. All Ordinances and parts of Ordinance in conflict herewith are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its adoption and publication.

Section 4. This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, Country of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting held on the 7th day of December, 2004.

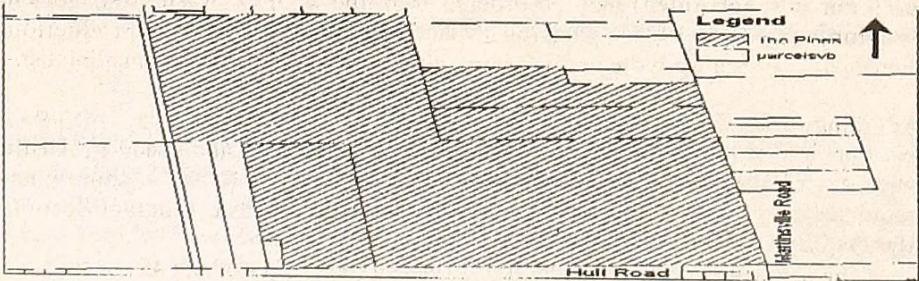
Yeas: Hart, Herman, Payne, Rochowiak, Jahr, Budd and King.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

This Ordinance shall be immediately recorded by the Township Clerk in the Township Ordinance Book as soon as it is adopted, which record shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Supervisor and Clerk and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township within ten (10) days after its passage.

I hereby certify that Ordinance 12-07-04(1) was published in the Belleville Enterprise, a newspaper circulating within the Charter Township of Van Buren.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King
Township Supervisor



Publish: December 16, 2004

OBITUARIES

REMUS, Elaine A.

Elaine A. Remus, 70, of Belleville, died Dec. 4.

Among her survivors are her sisters, Irene (Matthew F.) Krakowiak, Louise Singer and Mary Ann Gasser, all of Belleville, and a brother, Joe (MarRita) Remus of Atlanta, MI.

Mrs. Remus was a member of the September Days Seniors in Belleville.

Funeral services were at St. Anthony Catholic Church, where she was a member, with Father Thomas H. Cusick officiating.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.

Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

WARNER, Gayle Yl.

Gayle Y. Warner, 62, of Belleville, died Dec. 4.

Among her survivors are her husband of more than 40 years, Keith E. Warner; children, Sherry Lynn Warner of Ypsilanti and Ronald Keith Warner of Belleville; sisters, Shirley Wauer of Chelsea, Nancy (Archie) Dawson of Belleville, Sharon Mitchell of Clarksburg, WV, Evelyn DeMond of Belleville and Pamela (Gary) Craun of North Manchester, IN; a brother, Calvin (Vicki) Wauer of Mansfield, TZ; brothers-in-law, Lee Wauer, Gary Mitchell and Frank Pearson; a sister-in-law, Rainie Wauer, and several nieces, nephews, great-nieces and great-nephews.

Funeral services were at Grace Baptist Church in Belleville with the Rev. Robert J. white officiating.

Interment was at Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor.

Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

GILBERT, Johnny Lee

Johnny Lee Gilbert, 51, of Houghton Lake, formerly of Belleville and West Virginia, died Nov. 29.

Among his survivors are his wife of more than 23 years, Cheryl (Moody) Gilbert; children, Rebecca Gilbert of Woodhaven, Robert (Monica) Gilbert of Belleville, Melissa Gilbert of Taylor, Eric Gilbert of Houghton Lake, Cassandra Gilbert of Detroit and Valorie Gilbert of Taylor; a brother, Donald (Nancy) Gilbert of Gerrardston, WV; sisters, Sevilleah (Michael) Carson of Skidway Lake, Betty Jean (Patrick) Pugh of Taylor and Connie (Monte) Prouty of Belleville; three grandchildren, and his step-father, Mathew Barraco of Belleville.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. Fred Edward Dunford officiating.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park.

TOUTANT, Lilliane

Lilliane Betty Toutant, 73, of Belleville, formerly of Allen Park, died Dec. 1.

Among her survivors are her husband of more than 50 years, Bernard Ricard Toutant; daughters, Renee Berthiaume of Rochester Hills, Paulette Toutant of Troy, Michelle Davila of Texas, Yvonne Johnson of Indiana and Jackie Toutant of Lincoln Park; her mother, Jeanette LaCelle of Allen park; a brother, LeRoy (Marilyn) LaCelle of Seattle, WA, and seven grandchildren.

Mrs. Toutant worked part time as a seamstress and volunteered at Savage Elementary School where she read to the children.

A funeral mass was celebrated at St. Anthony Catholic Church where Mrs. Toutant was a member and sang in the choir. She served as a minister of the Eucharist and took communion to nursing home residents.

Father Thomas H. Cusick was the celebrant.

Arrangements were entrusted to the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pre-application Public Information Meeting

Project Description

Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc. (EDS), Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Deepwell Disposal Facility 28470 Citrin Drive, Romulus, Michigan

Purpose of Meeting

- The purpose of this meeting is to:
- provide a description of the facility to be operated,
 - the nature of its operations,
 - the license application process
 - allow for public comment

Meeting Details

January 18, 2005, 7:00PM
Crowne Plaza Hotel (8000 Merriman Rd., Romulus, Michigan)

For Special Access Needs

Please notify EDS at 734-946-1000 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Application Contact Person

Austin Marshall, P.O. Box 74456, Romulus, MI 48174
(phone: 734-946-1000)

Publish: December 16, 2004

NOTICE OF PUBLIC

Submittal of an Operating License Application for a New Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facility

Pursuant to Part 111 of Act 451, Hazardous Waste Management of Michigan's Natural Resources Environmental Protection Act of 1994 PA 451, as amended (Act 451), notice is hereby given that Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc. (EDS), will submit an Operating License Application for a Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facility to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ).

Facility Description and Location

EDS proposes to operate a Hazardous Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facility to dispose of liquids in two deep injection wells, for which Permits have been issued under Part 625 of Act 451. The facility is located at 28470 Citrin Drive in the SW ¼ NE ¼ SE ¼ of Section 12, T3S-R9E in Romulus, Michigan.

Review Process Description

The application will first be reviewed by the MDEQ for completeness. If the application is incomplete, the applicant and local community shall be notified by the MDEQ. The Director shall make a final decision on the application within 140 days after receiving a complete application.

Before making a final decision on the operating license application, the director shall, when authorized pursuant to the provisions of 40 CFR Part 271, prepare an operating license or notice of intent to deny; publish a public notice that an operating license, or notice of intent to deny, has been prepared, and allow not less than 45 days for public comment; provide public notice of any public hearing scheduled pursuant to the provisions of R 299.9514 not less than 30 days before the hearing date.

Preapplication Public Information Meeting

EDS will conduct a public information meeting prior to submitting the application to the MDEQ. The purpose of the meeting is to:

- provide a description of the Facility,
- describe the nature of its operations,
- describe the nature of the permitting process under Act 451, Part 111,
- Allow for public comment.

Meeting details:

Tuesday, January 18, 2005 - 7:00PM
Crowne Plaza Hotel
8000 Merriman Road
Romulus, Michigan
(For Special Access Needs, please notify EDS at 734-946-1000 at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.)

Location of Application Materials

After the application is submitted, it will be available for review at the MDEQ, Waste Management Division Office, on the first floor of Constitution Hall, Atrium North, 525 W. Allegan, Lansing, Michigan, and at the Southeastern Michigan Field Office, 38980 Seven Mile Road, Livonia, Michigan. Copies of the application package (after it is submitted) may be ordered from the MDEQ, Waste Management Division, P.O. Box 30241, Lansing, MI 48909, for the cost of reproduction. Interested persons must write to this address to be placed on the facility mailing list.

For Further Information

Questions regarding the proposed facility should be addressed to Austin Marshall, Vice-President of EDS, P.O. Box 74456, Romulus, MI 48174 (phone number: 734-946-1000), or to Mr. Steve Sliver, Hazardous Waste Program Section, MDEQ (phone number: 517-373-1976).

This notice has been placed by EDS pursuant to Part 111 of Act 451.

Publish: December 16, 2004

Continued from page 9

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

04-471

10A1. Motion by Romak, supported by Burcroff to re-appoint Councilman Prybyla to Romulus Planning Commission for one year. Term to expire November 2005.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.

Abstain: Prybyla. Motion Carried.

04-472

11. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Wadsworth to authorize the Treasurer of the City of Romulus to disburse funds as listed in Warrant 04-22, in the amount of Seven Hundred, Seventy Four Thousand, Four Hundred, Ninety Five Dollars and Eighty One Cents (\$774,495.81).

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes- Gear, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None. Abstain - Burcroff, Crova, Miller.
Motion Carried.

12. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak, Wadsworth.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Choate, CMC, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Linda R. Choate, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held November 22, 2004.

Linda R. Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: December 16, 2004

Builder seeks warm coats

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Wayne County residents will be a little warmer this year, thanks to the help of the Crosswinds Communities Third Annual Clothing Drive.

Joe Bach, one of the drive organizers, said that the last year the effort brought in more than 500 bags of clothing. This year, he said that the goal is to collect more than 1,000 bags of clothing.

"We want this time around to be even bigger and better," he said.

Crosswinds Communities builds single-family homes and town homes in more than 18 locations around Michigan. They're seeking donations of jackets, hats, gloves, boots, socks, pants, shirts, sweaters and undergarments.

Donations of new and used winter clothing can be dropped off at the Country Walk Crosswinds community in Van Buren

Township on Savage Road, the main office at 41050 Vincenti Court in Novi, or at any other Crosswinds field or sales center office through southeast Michigan.

All donations will benefit the Crossroads Soup Kitchen, a non-profit social service organization located in Detroit that services support to members of the community by providing advocacy, short-term material aid such as food, clothing and transportation, and help people plan for the future.

"Crosswinds Communities recognizes that there are many people in the Detroit area this holiday season who could use some assistance," said Bernie Gliberman, Crosswinds president. "Our clothing drive represents our commitment to the communities in which we live and work. We hope our efforts bring some winter weather relief to those in need."

For more information, call 734-699-1600. Personal pick-up is also available and can be arranged by calling 248-615-1313.

Students sought for school gifted program enrollment

The Van Buren Public School district has begun accepting referrals for the 2005-2006 Gifted and Talented Program.

The program services students in kindergarten through seventh grade. It is designed for academically gifted and highly motivated students and stresses a combination of accelerated studies and enrichment.

Some of the characteristics of gifted children that parents might observe include: a long attention span, heightened sensitivity, intense curiosity, resistance to routine and drill, a tendency to set high standards for themselves and others, a strong sense of

"fairness," resistance in areas in which they are unsure and concern with issues "too old" for their age.

Referrals and information are available from Barbara Woody, program coordinator, at 734-697-6370.

Forms are available in all elementary and middle schools, the administration building. All forms must be completed and returned to the principal of the school the child attends by Jan 18. Forms can also be mailed to: Barbara Woody, G/T Coordinator, North Middle School, 47097 McBride, Belleville, MI, 48111.

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REALLY WORK.
CALL 734-467-1900
TODAY TO PLACE YOUR AD !

CITY OF ROMULUS REQUEST TO RECEIVE BIDS

BID 04/05-17
Two (2) Temporary Sleeping Quarters for City of Romulus Fire Fighters

The City of Romulus, Michigan is seeking bids from qualified vendors for the above items.

(1) Qualified individuals and firms wishing to submit bids must do so on forms provided by the City. Bid forms and specifications may be obtained from Lynn A. Conway, Purchasing Coordinator, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan, by calling (734) 955-4568 or by Emailing: lconway@ci.romulus.mi.us

(2) Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes and returned to the City Clerk's Office no later than 2:00p.m., Tuesday, December 21, 2004. At that time said bids would be publicly opened and read.

BID ENVELOPES MUST BE ADDRESSED:

CITY OF ROMULUS CLERK'S OFFICE
BID 04/05-17 - Two (2) Temporary Sleeping Quarters for City of Romulus Fire Fighters
11111 Wayne Road,
Romulus, Michigan

(3) The right is reserved to reject any and all bids and proposals and to waive technicalities.

Publish: December 16, 2004

ORDINANCE NO. 12-07-04(2) CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN, WAYNE COUNTY

First reading of Ordinance 12-07-04 (2). Second reading for adoption will be held at the regular meeting of the Board of Trustees to be held at 7:30 p.m. on December 21, 2004 in the Board Room, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN CODE OF ORDINANCES SEC. 86-256 TO REVISE RATES AND CHARGES TO ALL USERS FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES AND TO AMEND THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN CODE OF ORDINANCES SEC. 86-259 TO REVISE DELINQUENCY, PENALTY AND LIEN PROVISIONS FOR ALL USERS OF WATER AND SEWER SERVICES.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN ORDAINS:

Section 1:	Section 86-256	Amended.
Section 2:	Section 86-259	Amended.
Section 3:	Conflicts.	
Section 4:	Severability.	
Section 5:	Effective Date.	

Effective Date
This Ordinance shall be effective upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting, called and held on the ____ day of _____, 2004.

YEA: King, Payne, Budd, Hart, Herman, Jahr and Rochowiak.
NEA: None.
ABSENT: None.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance.

Joannie D. Payne, Township Clerk
Cindy King, Supervisor

Publish: December 16, 2004



Parents...

It's never too late to think about your child's future...



Starting Jan. 3 the Taylor School District will be accepting applications for enrollment from students throughout Wayne County...

To help prepare your child for a world of possibilities, call:

313-295-5742

Here's what we can offer your child:

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

- Pre-school
- All-Day kindergarten
- Early reading program
- Hands-on math & science
- Social Studies inquiry methods
- Guided reading
- Technology-based learning
- Elementary band
- After-school programming
- State-aligned curriculum
- NCA accreditation in many schools

MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Technology-based learning
- Advanced math
- Outstanding reading programs
- Career Pathways
- Educational Development Plans
- State-competitive bands, choir
- Foreign languages
- Athletics
- After-school programming
- State-aligned curriculum
- NCA accreditation in all schools

Parents: Don't forget to ask about our All-Day Kindergarten and Before- and After-School Latchkey programs (available in many of our elementary schools)

SPORTS

Shorthanded Vikings fall to Prospectors; 'terrific trio' battle 3-on-5 in OT

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

For Anre Goree, Johnny Crawford and DeMarko Williams, it was a baptism by fire when they started in their first Vikings' varsity basketball game last Tuesday.

No one ever anticipated that they would be the final three Inkster players standing against five Detroit Southwestern players with less than a minute left in overtime – and still have a chance to win.

"It was the most incredible thing that I've ever seen my life," said Inkster Coach Gerald Paschal. "It was five-on-three, then five-on-two and we should have won. Those three kids played with so much heart."

Paschal, who said he is upholding strict scholastic values for the players, had to sit four starters because they didn't comply with the new standards. That left him with only six players for the season opener.

With about 4:40 left in the game he could only play four kids – the other two fouled out. But the four Vikings kept pace with Southwestern and battled to a 52-

52 tie at the end of regulation.

At the start of the overtime period they were down to the 'terrific trio'—Goree, Crawford and Williams. With only 33 seconds left, Goree fouled out, leaving just two, but the referees called the game. Southwestern won 61-58. Before the ref ended it, though, Southwestern was at the line. If they missed, it would have been possible for Inkster to hit a three and win it, said Paschal.

When the final whistle blew there was an emotional outpouring by the coach and the team, according to Paschal.

"The players were crying, I was crying, everybody was crying," he said. "The kids really believed that they could win and they almost did. I think it really bonded the team together. The team has never been the same since, and I mean that in a good way."

Jonathan Brown and Goree scored 14 points each and Williams ended with 12. Brown also nabbed 16 rebounds.

Lloyd Harrison scored 19 and Keith Arnold and Cortez Brazil each had 10 for Southwestern.

"I felt that the kids played

hard and accepted what I was doing, as far as suspending the four players," Paschal said. "They played hard for me and didn't quit. That tells me that they are buying into what we're doing here and that's why it was so hard for me when it was over."

Inkster 67, Ecorse 63

Friday night's game wasn't as exciting, but the Viking pulled out a 67-63 win against Ecorse.

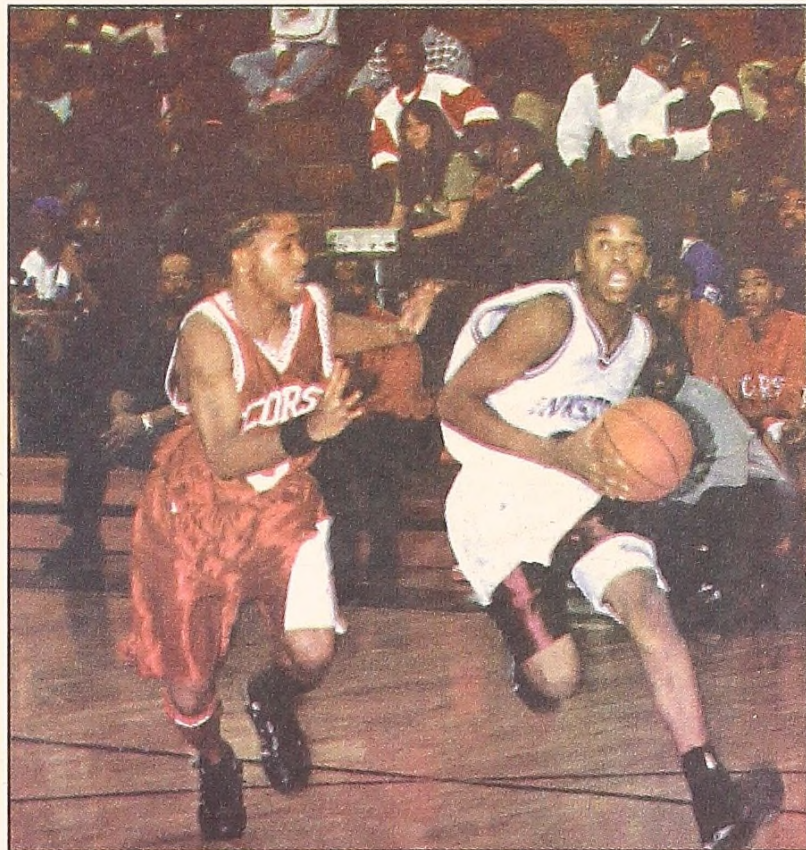
It looked like they were going to run away with it after the first half, where they held a 34-25 lead. It took two minutes before either team could score in the first period but once Inkster did, it didn't look like they were going to stop.

However, Ecorse came out shooting in third and outscored Inkster, 20-14.

"They started hitting some shots in the second, but our defense was good," said Paschal. "Our defense was good in both halves but Ecorse started shooting threes and hit a couple."

He said the defense held on and the team won, 67-63.

This time Inkster wasn't left short-handed. Paschal brought up two players from the junior varsity squad: freshman for-



Inkster's Anre Goree drives to the basket in the Vikings' 67-63 victory against Ecorse Friday night

wards Alphonso Lewis and Dwight Fleming. At one point he had three freshman and two seniors playing in the fourth quarter.

"I left them in because they were doing well," Paschal said.

Lewis was a big impact. He hit for 12 points and nailed 5-of-6 free throws in the fourth quarter. Brown contributed with 12 points and nabbed 14 rebounds, which makes it 30 for the season.

Fleming also contributed right away with nine points. He grabbed 11 rebounds and was 5-of-7 from the line, too. Crawford added nine and had seven rebounds.

"Inkster gets a bad reputation some times, but these are great kids that work hard," Paschal said. "I'm very optimistic of the future at Inkster."

The Vikings host Dearborn Fordson at 7 p.m. tomorrow.

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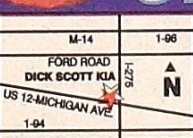
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Dealership 'Accelerates' club

Members of the Michigan Accelerators track club presented awards to staff members of the Les Stanford Chevrolet dealership in Dearborn last week for their generous donations this year.

Coach James Hall said the dealership graciously gave his club \$2,500 in donations to help pay for supplies such as uniforms, t-shirts, water and energy bars. They also try to put some money in the club fund to help with travel expenses, he said.

"They're just wonderful people," he said. "In times like this, it's hard for companies to do something like that. We're really grateful."

On hand for the Accelerators were Coach Wade Cook, Kelvin Valentine, Landria Buckley, Jennifer Anderson, Brittany Howard and Jennifer Sabra.

The group presented Tonya Cook, Scott Montgomery, and Doug Smykowski with awards. Gary and Paul Stanford were also honored but were unable to attend the ceremony.

"Tonya Cook works for us and we know that her husband, Wade, works with a lot of kids in the community and we thought it would be a nice gesture on

our part to help Wade in helping the community," said Smykowski, a manager at Les Stanford. "We hope to do it again."

The Accelerators are a southeastern Michigan based track club with athletes from Canton Township, Plymouth, Wayne, Westland, Inkster, Romulus, Dearborn and the Downriver area. They produce some of the top track athletes in the state.

"Without this kind of support, none of this could happen," said Wade Cook at the presentation.

They're just wonderful people. In times like this it's hard for companies to do something like that. We're really grateful.

Coach James Hall



Members of the Michigan Accelerators Track Club presented the management staff at Les Stanford Chevrolet with awards of appreciation. The dealership donated \$2,500 to help the club pay for supplies.

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Chiefs' busy week earns them a 4-1-1 record

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Canton Chiefs' hockey team had a busy week with three contests in four days. But they handled it like pros and came away 2-0-1.

The victories against Livonia Franklin last Wednesday and Walled Lake Northern on Friday boosted their overall record to 4-1.

But their most recent match up against Chelsea left them with their first tie of the season.

The Chiefs fell behind twice in the game, but managed to come back each time. They settled for a tie but an important lesson was learned anyway, according to Canton Coach Mike Behen.

Canton took the lead in the first period with a goal from senior forward Reece McCabe, with help from junior forward Kevin Tollison and senior defenseman Pat Davison.

Chelsea woke up in the second frame and scored two goals that put them ahead, 2-1. Ryan Ruikka and Schyler Williams scored the goals for the Bulldogs.

Canton's junior forward Brett Giacamino knotted the score in the third. McCabe and Brian Wioncek recorded the assists. It didn't last long, though, as Chelsea's Ryan Ford knocked one in for a 3-2 lead. Behen pulled his goalie, Tony Hylko, for a man advantage in the waning moments of the game.

It paid off when senior defend-

er Mike Kondratec gained control of the puck with 30 seconds left in the game. He showed excellent patience, said Behen, as he carried the puck up the ice. He passed it up to McCabe, who also showed patience and, instead of hurrying a shot, passed it to Davison, who put in the net for the tie.

"We were a little disappointed with a tie," he said, "but it was nice to see that the kids can come back - not just once, but twice. That's something that we talk about a lot, having to come back."

McCabe leads Canton in scoring with 18 points (8 goals, 10 assists). Kondratec and senior Forward Bryan Wioncek both follow with 13 points. Kondratec, who made the switch from AAA Midget, has five goals and eight assists while Wioncek has three goals and 10 assists. Hylko faced 29 shots in the contest and stopped 26.

Canton 8, Northern 2

Canton routed Walled Lake Northern, 8-2, on Friday night.

A four-goal scoring spree in the second essentially put the game out of reach for Northern.

Kondratec got things going with a score in the first period. McCabe assisted on the play. Northern's Danny Rockhey evened the score at 1-1 but Canton's sophomore forward Brad Barath put the Chiefs back on top.

Wioncek started the three-goal second period routing. Senior defenseman Ben Laurin and

McCabe earned assist on the 3-1 goal. Then senior forward Paul Stevens added to the lead with help from Wioncek and McCabe. Barath notched his second of the night, which put Canton up, 5-1.

Wioncek ended the scoring spree in the third with an assist from Stevens. The goal made it 6-1 for the Chiefs. Mike Bell added one more for Northern, but the deficit was too large to overcome and Canton put in two more, which finished the game 8-2.

Canton 5, Franklin 2

Behen said once the Chiefs played Franklin they would know where they stood in the Western Lakes Activities Association (WLAA).

They must be standing tall because they railed the Patriots 5-2.

"It was a good test," Behen

said. "It let teams around the league know Canton is for real. It also sends a good message to ourselves: we know we can win if we work hard."

After a scoreless first period, McCabe opened the second period flurry with the first goal of the game. Franklin's Matt Sgriccia countered with a goal, but McCabe came back and scored again for Canton to take the 2-1 lead.

Davison added to the lead, 3-1, with assists by Ryan Mooradian and Wioncek. But Franklin narrowed the lead again with a score from Dan Kozlowski.

Canton went on to score two more goals in the third with the final blow from McCabe, which put the game away, 5-2.

The Chiefs head to Northville to play the Mustangs at 3 p.m. on Saturday.

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Plymouth icers' woes continue, fall to 1-3

Jason Carmel Davis
Staff Writer

The young Plymouth High School hockey team is quickly learning what varsity pucks is all about.

After winning their first-ever contest – on the road, no less – the Wildcats have dropped three straight, putting Plymouth's record at 1-3 (0-1, WLAA) on the season.

The 'Cats were blasted by Livonia Crestwood, 7-1, on Dec. 8.

After a scoreless first session, Crestwood went off for six goals in

the second to put the game away.

Even after a blowout loss, Plymouth head coach Mike Kaput was still able to find some positives.

"If you throw out the second period, it's a 1-1 game," he said. "We just had a couple bad breaks. And a couple of penalties hurt us, too. Other than that, we played an OK game."

Friday's face-off with Northville was a thrilling contest.

The Mustangs jumped out to a 3-zip advantage early in the second stanza, culminating with a Derek Mohacsi goal.

The 'Cats rallied back to cut the deficit to one halfway through the second, as sophomore forward Charlie Webb and junior forward John Knoerl lit the lamp to get Plymouth back in the game.

But Northville senior forward Mike Presley put an end to the 'Cats' comeback, scoring on a rebound to put the Mustangs up 4-2.

Junior defenseman Justin Michalek added a score for Plymouth in the third, but it was too little, too late, as Northville wound up taking the victory, 4-3.

A controversial call in the sec-

ond took away a Wildcats goal that could have helped Plymouth escape with a tie. It looked as if the puck slid by Mustang junior goalie Scott Ozog, but a penalty wiped away the score.

"We had the momentum, and that penalty hurt us," Kaput said. "The ref didn't see (the goal), but it was a goal."

Despite the loss, the way the game was played put a smile on Kaput's face.

"You don't mind losing a game like that," he said. "That was fun. Those kids worked their butts off."

Kaput said he was pleased with how his players supported one another, even when they were in a 3-0 hole.

He also said his guys are starting to believe in one another and play well together.

"You can't get upset over things when you see that," he said. "But every day when we step on the ice, practice or a game, we want to improve."

Plymouth's next test is a Christmas tournament set at 9 a.m. on Dec. 18 and noon on Dec. 19. Both contests can be seen at the Arctic Edge in Canton.

Canton hoopsters back in action, overcome Monroe, Novi

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Despite losing four of the five starters from last year's varsity basketball team, the Canton Chiefs are off to a great start.

In the opening week of basketball, Canton defeated Monroe and Novi for a 2-0 start to the season.

Canton will be without D.J. Bridges, Brad Waidmann, Matt Paye and Travis McKinney this year. The only starter that has returned as a senior is Andy Cortellini, at point guard.

Coach Charlie Paye started the season with a 12-player roster.

Returning from last year's bench and rounding out this year's starting line up are senior

guards Jason Houdek and David Callile; senior forward Julian Smith; and senior center Kevin Thornton.

This year's bench includes Steve Paye, Ryan Waidmann, Rob Eppler and Jacob Langdon. Paye also has three juniors – Andre Bridges, Andy Rossow and Andy Larsen – that are new to the team and could see some time on the hardwood.

Paye said before the season started that he had high expectations and figures they should finish in the upper portion of the conference.

"The defense is good right now," he said. "Perimeter shooting isn't where it should be, but that will come around."

Canton only shot 34 percent from the field against Novi on Friday night.

He also said they are not shooting free throws real well. They were 12-of-23 against Monroe and they only made one out of 10 from the line against Novi.

The strong point appears to be the defense. In two games last week the Chiefs averaged 18.5 defensive rebounds per game. The big man at center, Thornton, has averaged 11.5 of them per game.

Paye contributes the 40-24 victory against Novi to Thornton and the guards' play.

"The Guards were getting real good pressure on their guards," he said. "Having Kevin (Thornton)

in the back has helped. He's 6-foot-8 and he blocks shots and he does it without fouling."

Thornton has 13 blocks in the two victories. He had eight against Monroe and five against Novi.

Against Monroe last Tuesday, Canton led by 11 at the half, 32-21, but struggled in the second half. Monroe ate away at the lead and outscored Canton 24-16 in the half.

"We were pretty much in control until the last two minutes," Paye said. "Monroe went on a run and we weren't making our free throws. The defense bailed us out of that one."

Cortellini, Thornton and Smith each scored 10 for Canton.

Thornton had 10 rebounds and Smith, five.

It was a complete defensive effort on the part of Canton when they took on Novi in their home opener on Friday. They only allowed 13 points in the first half and 11 in the second to take the 40-24 victory.

Thornton scored 16 points with 13 rebounds. Smith added 10 with six rebounds while Callile scored eight with five rebounds.

Paye said they still had a difficult time from shooting outside.

"Guards weren't shooting well but once they shoot like I know they can we'll be a tough team," he said.

The Chiefs head to South Lyon tonight.

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Plymouth Whalers take 2 of 3 last week

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Whalers remain in third place after they won two of three games this weekend.

In their most recent conquest they weathered the Storm for a 4-3 come-from-behind victory at the Guelph Sports and Entertainment Centre Sunday afternoon.

James Neal scored back-to-back goals in the third period to secure the win for the Whalers.

Plymouth had to play catch-up throughout the game. The Guelph Storm held a 2-0 lead for more than two-and-a-half periods before Mike Looby knocked in his first goal of the season, which made it a 2-1 game.

The Storm was on the board first with a tally from Ryan Kitchen – his tenth of the year – in the first period. Mark D'Agostini and Tyler Doig assisted. D'Agostini, from Kitchen and Daniel Girardi, added to the lead at the 13:38 mark of the second. But 16 seconds later Looby cut into the lead, 2-1. John Mitchell and Mike Knight earned the assists.

Plymouth's leading scorer, Dan Collins, opened the third period with his 11th goal of the season and knotted the score at 2. Both Knight and Mitchell earned their second assists on the night. The Whalers received their first lead of the game when Neal put his first one of the night in about 1:42 later. Jonas Fiedler and Andrew Fournier were credited with the assists. But Kitchen knotted the score again with an unassisted goal.

Neal, from Fiedler and Fournier again, snapped the tie and won the game

Vigilante finished things up at 3:19 of the third when he beat Sting goalie Ryan Munce with a shot from the left wing.

with his second goal at 10:22.

Ryan Nie stopped 32-of-35 shots in net for the Whalers. He is ranked fifth in the league with a .921 save percentage and a 2.39 goals against average.

With the win the Whalers improved to 12-13-4-2 and remained in third place – two points behind second-place Windsor (13-15-3-3) and three points behind first-place Sault Ste. Marie (14-14-5-0).

Plymouth is on the road for three games this weekend. They head to Toronto, Belleville and Oshawa.

Whalers 3, Attack 6

The second place Midwest division Owen Sound Attack was too much for the Whalers to handle Saturday night at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township. A three-goal surge in the second period put the game out of reach for the Whalers as they fell, 6-3.

The Whalers had a surge of their own in the first period in order to keep it close. The Attack scored with two goals by Brad Richardson and Jonathan Lahun in the first half of the first frame. But John Vigilante and rookie Corey Tanaka scored a minute apart of each other for a 2-2 game.

Tanaka, with help from Looby and the newly-acquired Ryan Stephenson, scored first at the 17:51 mark. Then

Vigilante followed with a score at the 18:51 mark. Knight and Mitchell recorded those assists.

The second period was all Owen Sound. Bobby Ryan scored less than a minute into the middle period. Andrej Sekera made it a 4-2 game with a power-play goal and Robin Big Snake's goal at 15:24 extended the Attack's lead to 5-2.

Down by two late in the third, James Neal got one past Attack goalie Neal Conway, which made it a 5-3 game. Knight and Mitchell recorded the assists. With about two minutes left in the game Nie was pulled for an extra shooter but Big Snake knocked one in to the empty net, which wrapped up the game for the Attack.

Whalers 3, Sting 1

The Whalers avoided Sarnia's sting

with the help of a rookie and a newcomer in their 3-1 victory Friday night.

Newcomer Stephenson's power-play goal at the 7:01 mark of the second period broke a 1-1 tie and led the way for the victory. It was Stephenson's third game as a Whaler and his first goal for Plymouth. Vaclav Meidl and Knight made the assists.

After Chad Painchaud scored the Attack's lone goal on a power play in the first period, rookie John Armstrong knotted the score 3:49 in to the second. Stephenson and Tanaka earned the assists.

Vigilante finished things up at 3:19 of the third when he beat Sting goalie Ryan Munce with a shot from the left wing.

Nie had another stellar day. He stopped 34-of-35 shots in the win.

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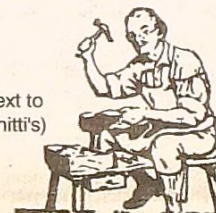


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Young Plymouth Wildcats off to solid start

Jason Carmel Davis
Staff Writer

For a young team with very little varsity experience, the Plymouth High School basketball team had a nice showing in its first full week of action, recording a 2-1 record in three home contests.

The Wildcats' first five games will be at Plymouth High School and the home crowd has provided a spark for the young unit.

Against Ann Arbor Greenhills on Dec. 7, the 'Cats lit up the scoreboard – and the opposition – as they came away with a 92-76 blowout win in their inaugural contest.

"I think we set a gym record for points," said Head Coach Tom

Van Wagoner. "We finished well. We didn't miss a lot of shots and we hit our free throws."

Plymouth had four players in double figures in the rout. Everyone on the roster scratched the stat sheet, as well, with a bucket or an assist.

The next night, in a rare back-to-back, the 'Cats fell 55-46 to Allen Park.

Plymouth's youth and inexperience showed as the 'Cats missed good looks and took bad shots, Van Wagoner said.

Last Friday night, Plymouth got back on track with a solid 54-40 win over Lincoln Park.

Plymouth – with no seniors on the depth chart – was at a disadvantage from the outset, as Lincoln Park hit the hardwood

with a senior-laden squad.

However, the Wildcats didn't let their youth affect them, as they led from the opening tip to the final buzzer.

Junior guard Brent Jones paced Plymouth early, scoring six straight late in the first quarter.

Junior forward Josh LeDuc led the Wildcats, tallying 13 points, while junior guard D.J. Coleman and sophomore forward Kulraj Sandhu netted 12 and 11 points, respectively.

The contest was whistle-heavy, as the teams combined for 38 fouls. But Van Wagoner was able to quickly discard that fact.

"It wasn't pretty," he said, "but we did what we had to do to win."

Van Wagoner said he is pleased with his unit's start, but

he knows it's too early to give an accurate assessment of where his team is at this point in the season.

"2-1 is close to what I expected," he said. "We could have gone 3-0, but I'm ok with 2-1. And we

still have a long way to go to become a top Western Lakes team."

Plymouth's next game is a home tilt with Bloomfield Hills Andover, and is set for 7 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 20.



Canton flips into action

The Canton gymnastics team kicked off the season with their annual "Red and White" scrimmage last week (above). Sixteen of the girls participated in the annual Judges' Cup, a meet where the judges practice their scoring for the season and give athletes feedback, in Hartland on Saturday. The team will head to the Vassar Varsity Invitational this Saturday.

Wayne basketball falls to Dearborn

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Wayne Memorial Zebras only lost four seniors from their varsity basketball team and Coach Wayne Woodard hopes the experience of his returnees is enough to carry them through the season.

Returning are senior captains Gene Nix, a 6-foot-7 center; Danny Walsh, a 6-foot-2 forward; Maurice Nelson, a 6-foot-2 forward; and Roderick Walker, a 5-foot-8 guard.

Senior guards Dontrel Wright, James Hunter, Raymond Harris and Jay Butler made the roster as well as senior forward Mike Floyd, junior guard Justin Collop guard Devaughn Hill and John Hill.

Woodard will also have the

help of three young post players in Jerry Center, a 6-foot-4 junior center, and two 6-foot-6 sophomores, James Adams, and Chris Thompson.

"We have some experience with Walsh, Nix, Nelson and Walker but the others are having to learn," Woodard said. "We're just going to take it one at a time. Our goal is to win two games a week. We'll see where we're at when we break for Christmas."

"Kids are working hard," he added. "We have a good balance with size and speed."

A one-point loss in the final seconds against Dearborn wasn't how the Wayne Zebras wanted to start the season, but that's what happened in their season opener in

Dearborn on Friday night.

Wayne was up 68-67 with four seconds left on the clock when guard Bret Turner hit the shot to win the game for Dearborn. Wayne was left with the four ticks on the clock, which was enough time for Walsh to let loose a shot, but it rolled in and then out again, said Woodard.

"I was pleased with the effort, Woodard said. "It was a tough loss and we'll have to see how we respond to it."

Walsh led the team with 17 points, which included going 5-for-5 from the line and Nix added 14 just in the second half. Nelson ended with 11 and went 6-for-6 from the line while Walker contributed with 10.

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Mustangs race to 2 victories, top South Lyon, Hartland

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Northville may have lost a lot of senior leadership from their varsity basketball team, but that won't stop them from competing with some of the top teams in the Western Lakes Activities Association (WLAA).

"Being green; I guess we'll excel at being green" Northville Coach Darrel Schumacher said jokingly when asked what his team's strong point is. "No, we really understand that we have to play tough defense. If we can keep

games close, we'll be all right. I think we'll be competitive before we're done."

Despite the six seniors lost, Northville does have key returners. Alan Shanoski, a 6-foot-3 senior who started most of last year, will lend his experience and skills. J.D. Gerblick, another 6-foot-3 senior, will also be back in action for the Mustangs.

When he's hot, he's a good shooter, Schumacher said of 6-foot senior Mike Jameson, who will have a chance to put his shooting skills to the test again this year.

Other players returning as

seniors this year are Oussama El-Saadi, Dave VanHorn and Ryan Hillock.

Newcomers for the squad include Doug Hassey, Brad Birdsall, Steve Clark, Brandon Barkowski and Nick Kaldis.

So far, so good for the Northville Mustangs. They opened the season last week with two victories.

"I'm pleased with the start but we have a lot of work to do," Schumacher said.

First off, they overcame heavy-hitters South Lyon with a 56-51 victory last Tuesday.

Gerblick led Northville with 15 points and 11 rebounds while Alvin Storrs and Shanoski each scored 12.

South Lyon took a 14-9 lead after one period of play an extended it to a six-point advantage, 26-20, at half time.

Northville came to life in the third frame. They out scored South Lyon and took a 39-37 lead. Their strong play continued in the fourth and they managed to hold off South Lyon for the 56-51 victory.

Northville's second outing was just as successful. They defeated Hartland 54-43.

Hartland hit a three-pointer to open up the game but Gerblick countered with a three of his own and the Mustangs took off from the gates and never looked back again.

Gerblick hit for 23 points and both Storrs and Mike Jameson had nine points in the win. Storrs hit 6-of-6 from the line in the final 2:00, according to Schumacher.

Northville will play Milford on the road tomorrow night.

Salem hosts Western Lakes swim relays

The Western Lakes Activities Association (WLAA) hosted their conference relay swim meet Saturday.

Livonia Stevenson topped the charts with 252 total points. Northville, Salem and Canton followed in first, second and third respectively.

Stevenson was tops in the 400-yard medley relay with a time of 3:47.22. Salem's team of Matt Jurak, Stan Chen, Nick Dixon and Mike Higgs placed second (3:51.47), followed by Northville's team of Jon Bardsley, Westen Laabs, Will Blickle and Brody Blickle (3:55.16).

Stevenson led the pack again in the 400-yard freestyle relay event (3:30.79). Walled Lake Central (3:30.85) and Walled Lake Northern (3:36.34) followed in order, while Northville (3:44.55), Canton (3:44.92), Salem (3:57.49) and Wayne (4:23.05) placed fourth thru sixth respectively.

It was Livonia Churchill that led the 200-yard breast-stroke relay with a time to beat of 2:13.15. Walled Lake Western (2:14.51) and Stevenson (2:16.38) were quick to follow. Salem (2:18.19) and Canton (2:18.69) took

fourth and fifth places.

Northville's team of Brad Farris, Jon Bardsley, Hunter Schwartz and Chris Keady finished tops in the 200-yard backstroke with a time of 1:45.16. Salem followed in second (1:55.94) with the team of John Kline, James Crabill, Matt Underhill and Mike Higgs. And Canton's Robert Blaesser, Greg Calabrese, David Conzelman and David Marinica were quick behind in third (1:57.07).

Stevenson also won the 200-yard butterfly relay with a time of 1:43.92. Northville was a close second (1:46.75) with their team of Joe Hogan, Colin Smith, Ryan Smith and Chris Culkin. Canton followed in third (1:48.22) with Nick Landis, Shogo Uno, Greg Calabrese and John Faraoni.

Northville won the 400-yard medley relay. Brody Blicle, Hunter Schwartz, Westen Laabs

and Will Blickle blew the competition out of the water with a time of 3:58.67. Canton's team of Robert Blaesser, Ross Schwartz, Nathan Philips and Matt Carlson was the closest to the Northville team with a time of 4:13.25. Salem's Penn Chou, Stan Chen, Matt Underhill and Billy Hogan came in third (4:16.68).

Northville also took first in the 500-yard freestyle relay. Joe Hogan, Chris Culkin, Brad Farris and Chris Keady finished with a record-breaking time of 4:19.90. Salem's 1988 team held the previous record of 4:21.61. Stevenson was second (4:24.20) while Salem's Tim Skeeters, David Olson, Matt Jurak and Nick Dixon placed third (4:40.42).

Walled Lake Central finished ahead everyone in the 200-yard medley relay (1:44.54)

and Stevenson (1:47.96) and Walled Lake Northern (1:51.18) rounded out the second and third. Noerthvill (1:51.89), Salem (1:52.91), Canton 1:55.81) and Wayne (2:01.68) placed fourth thru sixth. Plymouth (2:26.97) and Glenn (2:39.74) placed ninth and 11th respectively.

Salem's Cory Price, Adam Clark, David Xia and Nick Leone won the 200-yard freestyle relay (1:42.02). Walled Lake Western finished second (1:43.42) while Northville's Adam Pullian, Jim Mammano, Dan O'Brien and Kyle Adams placed third (1:44.59). Wayne (1:47.13), Canton (1:51.85), Plymouth (2:23.13) and Glenn (2:44.72) finished the event in fourth, sixth, ninth and 11th respectively.

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BUSINESS

Across the sea

New Plymouth shop features goods from England, Brazil, Germany

Jason Carmel Davis
Staff Writer

Coats from England, scarves from Germany and shoes from Brazil; you would think all these fine articles of clothing would be found at Somerset Mall or Sak's Fifth Avenue. However, they can all be found at the newest specialty shop in Plymouth: Toad Hall.

Located at 470 Forest Ave., Toad Hall—named by owner Karol King's husband, Bernie—is home to some of the finest British attire around. The shop even has a line of men's coats—Barbour from England—that reads "By appointment of our Majesty the Queen" inside the collar.

Serving as owner/manager, and lone employee, King opened the shop in September after a stint in Ann Arbor's Kerrytown area. She said she's pleased with

her decision to relocate.

"I wasn't sure how things were going in Kerrytown," King said. "So I looked all over Plymouth for a nice spot, and one day, I found this one."

King, an interior designer by trade, previously served as a buyer and manager for Alexandria's, a store in Ann Arbor that closed down in July. Her daughter, Blair, is an accomplished equestrienne. And because of the expense of her child's sport, King had to find a new way to generate income.

King moved to Florida with her young child, and sold items imported from England and Scotland at Blair's equestrian events.

"My daughter was too young to travel to her events alone," she said. "I couldn't run the shop and be with her at the same time, so I had to take some time off."

King said her landlord is fas-

cinated with England, and loved her idea.

King's establishment has everything from unisex coats, to knit hats, to Christmas ornaments. She also sells jewelry and art.

King's interior design skills show up in the shop, as well. She designed all the floral arrangements and displays. She says some of her customers even ask her to help them with their homes, too. She also said she puts a lot of work into her business because she wants her customers to think the store is charming.

*My daughter was too young
to travel to her events alone.*

*I couldn't run the shop and be with her
at the same time, so I had to take some time off.*

of the cigar shop right next door, as well.

"Those guys are amazing," she said. "I think the help I get from other merchants is one of the reasons for the store's success."

Toad Hall is usually open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday and Monday, and from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesday-Friday. Tonight is the Plymouth "Men's Panic Night," a night designed for those shoppers who wait until the last minute to hit the stores. King said she will stay open until 9 tonight, joining a host of other shops that will extend their hours.

While she admits sales are important, King said she wouldn't be upset if people just wandered into her shop to browse.

"I'd like for people to feel comfortable coming in here," she said. "I would want them to have a nice experience if they bought something, or not."

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59. Auctions
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61. Misc. Items
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121. Autos Wanted

1. Obituaries

PEGGY JEAN PODGORNÝ
DECEMBER 3, 2004

Peggy Jean Podgorný, of Cape Coral, Florida, formerly of Wayne, Michigan, passed away on December 3, 2004. Born September 11, 1933 in Trenton, Ohio, the daughter of the late Clifford Stidham and Gertrude Morris-Stidham. She managed, along with her husband, Venoy Realty Company, a business owned and operated by "Chet and Peg" for more than 40 years in Wayne, Michigan. She was a member of St. Andrews Catholic Church in Cape Coral, Florida, and a long-time member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Wayne, Michigan, where she was very active in the Women's Society and always lending a helping hand. She was a loving wife, mother and grandmother, and will be missed by many. She is survived by her loving husband of 50 years, Chet, and six children, nine grandchildren, cousins, a brother and sister and nephews. The family requests that in lieu of flowers, donations be made in her name to the St. Mary's Food Depot. A memorial service will be held Monday, December 20, 2004 at St. Mary's

Catholic Church in Wayne, Michigan. There will be an 11:00 a.m. Mass and a luncheon immediately following.

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59. Auctions

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E30-David Bain=Furniture, lamps, boxes, utility dolly
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I35-Andrea Hancock=Furniture, boxes
J20-Thomas Scanlon=Tools, boxes
J30-James Lewis=Furniture, boxes
America's Budget Storage 40671 Joy Rd. Canton, MI 48187

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On December 21, 2004 the Westland Police Department will conduct public auctions of impounded, abandoned vehicles. The first auction will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. at Westland Service Towing, 37501 Cherry Hill, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

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The second auction will begin promptly at

10:30a.m. at Westland Car Care 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

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1990 Geo Storm
2 Door-Red
J81RF2367536145
1988 Pontiac Bonneville
4 Door-White
1G2HY54C1JW269480
1994 Dodge Caravan
Station Wagon-Red
1B4GH54R9RX377988
1995 Ford Aerostar
Station Wagon-Green
1FMCA11U8SZA49846
1994 Mercury Topaz
2 Door-White
1MEPM31X8RK643230
1990 Geo Prizm
4 Door-Blue
1Y1SK5461LZ154856
1985 Oldsmobile
4 Door-Blue
1G3BN69Y9F9127694

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

30 DAY NOTICE OF AUCTION

Due to unknown ownership, 30 day notice is hereby given that the vehicle(s) listed below will be auctioned after JANUARY 15, 2005 unless it is claimed by the owner prior to that time:

1994 Ford Probe
2 Door-Blue
1ZVLT20A1R5153296

Call
734-467-1900
to place your
classified ad.

87. Rooms for Rent

CANTON
Super 8 Motel
3933 Lotz Rd (off Michigan Ave.)
(734) 722-8880



WEEKLY RATES
\$199.99
& UP



- All new rooms • Free deluxe continental breakfast
- Biscuits, gravy & belgian waffles added
- Free local phone calls • 70 station cable w/ HBO
- All interior corridors, with elevators • Micro fridge available
- "Ask about our jacuzzi rooms"

89. Apartments for Rent

PRINCETON COURT
APARTMENTS

NO RENT UNTIL
JANUARY 2005!

Ranch-style land 2 bedroom apts., private entrance, patio, washer/dryer hook-ups, lots of storage!

* with approved credit

Under New Management

734-459-6640

Convenient Wilcox/Haggerty Area
Plymouth

Equipment AUCTION

Bankruptcy Case 04-70673
Dun-Rite Mold Finishing
Mon. - Dec. 27 - 10:30 AM
17684 Telegraph Rd.
Romulus, MI

2 Forklifts-10K Capacity;
35T & 25T Hyd. Presses;
Air Compressors; Gantry
Crane w/5T Hoist; Gas
Welder; Shop Supplies;
Office & Misc. Supplies.
For complete list visit our
website at

www.centuryassets.com
or call for brochure.

Century Asset
Management

(231) 228-6667

61. Misc. Items

Kenmore Electric
Laundry Center
3 Years. Old,
excellent condition
\$350
734-398-5864

FREE 4 - ROOM DIRECT TV SYSTEM Includes standard installation. 3 Months Free HBO & Cinemax! Access to over 225 channels! Limited time offer. S&H. Restrictions Apply. 1-800-474-4959

SAWMILLS - \$2,695.00 - LumberMate-2000 & LumberLite-24. Norwood Industries also manufactures utility ATV attachments, log skidders, portable board edgers and forestry equipment. www.norwoodindustries.com - Free information: 1-800-578-1363 ext300N

BUILDING SALE... "Rock Bottom Prices!" Final Clearance. Beat Next Price Increase. Go direct/save. 20x26. 25x30. 30x40. 35x50. 40x60. 45x90. 50x100. 60x180. Others. Pioneer 1-800-668-5422.

89. Apartments for Rent

Belmont Manor
apartments

ONE MONTH FREE RENT!

Spacious 1 Bedroom Apartment

ONLY \$560*

Spacious 2 Bedroom Apartment

ONLY \$660*

- Extensive Storage • Fitness Center
- Minutes from Eastern MI University, Metro Airport & University of MI

3 Blks. South of Belleville Rd.
(Main St.) On Huron River Drive

For Details Call
(734) 699-2042

Holiday Savings
Wayne Forest Apartments

We have up to two months FREE rent.



- FREE Heat • FREE Water
- Large individual Storage area
- Laundry Facilities In Each Building
- Large Walk-In Closet
- 24 Hour Maintenance
- Carport Parking
- Centrally located to the Airport, Highways & Shopping

33095 Forest, Wayne, MI

734 326-7800

South of Michigan Ave., Just off of Venoy

PLACE YOUR STATEWIDE AD HERE! \$299 buys a 25-word classified ad offering over 1.6 million circulation and 4.2 million readers. Plus your ad will be placed on Michigan Press Association's website. Contact this newspaper for details.

REACH 3.5 MILLION Michigan readers with a 2 x 2 display ad for only \$949 - Contact this newspaper for details.

87. Rooms For Rent

AAA Willow Acres Motel, low daily and weekly rates. Refrigerator, microwave, HBO. Call 734-721-1220, Tel-96 Inn 313-535-4100. Fairlane in Novi 248-347-9999

CANTON DAYS INN Low Daily, Weekly, and Monthly rates. Free deluxe breakfast Guest Laundry Microfridge in all rooms 40500 Michigan Avenue Exit 22 off I-275 734-721-5200

ROOM FOR rent, Wayne, \$85/weekly, all utilities included. Call 734-721-0232.

88. Duplexes For Rent

Norwayne
1 and 3
Bedrooms Available,
\$425-\$700
1.5 months security
Call 734-817-8700

Looking to buy?
Need to sell?
Place your ad in the
Journal classifieds.
Call 734-467-1900

WESTLAND-NORWAYNE

Call for list of available 2 & 3 BEDROOM duplexes, and single family homes. Section 8 welcome. Lead safe units available. Professional full-time management. Norplex Associates 734-722-6444 EHO

89. Apartments For Rent

1 Bed \$550
Security \$750
No pets.
734-482-5076 or
734-834-2877

Wayne, MI - Spacious 1 Bedroom, Well maintained, heat, water, A/C included, no pets, \$495, call a manager @ 734-729-2108 or owner @ 734-878-0859

BOLD PRINT ATTRACTS MORE READERS!
CALL 734-467-1900
to place your ad.

89. Apartments for Rent

Newburgh Colonial
Apartments
734-721-6699

- Limited Special! -
\$425 Month

- Spacious 1 bedroom
- On site laundry
- Cable ready
- 5 minutes from Ford plant

2400 S. Newburgh Rd., Westland

Funeral
DIRECTORY

DAVID C. BROWN

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460 E. HURON RIVER DRIVE
David C. Brown, Manager

Belleville

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Crane

36885 GODDARD
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734-941-9200
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JAMES H. PENN & SON

313-278-6300

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Inkster, MI 48141



WISH LIST YEAR-END EVENT

YOU MUST HAVE BEEN VERY GOOD THIS YEAR



2005 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS GS

- Only standard V-8 in its class* • Largest trunk in its class*
- Roomiest interior in the full-size class* • Five-star safety rating in all five categories**

A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT

\$18,357***

AFTER \$5,500 CASH BACK
INCLUDING \$1,500 FORD CREDIT CASH
AND \$500 A/D/X/Z BONUS CASH

FOR RETURNING A/D/Z FORD EMPLOYEES,
RETIREES & ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS:
PREPAY A TWO-YEAR LEASE FOR

\$5,339

AFTER \$6,000 CASH BACK
INCLUDING \$1,500 FORD CREDIT CASH,
\$500 A/D/X/Z BONUS CASH
AND \$500 RENEWAL CASH†

SECURITY DEPOSIT NOT REQUIRED.
INCLUDES ACQUISITION FEE.
EXCLUDES TAX, TITLE AND LICENSE FEES.

2005 LINCOLN TOWN CAR SIGNATURE

- Best-in-class shoulder room, front headroom and trunk capacity
- Five-star safety rating in all five categories**
- Number one in owner loyalty†

RED CARPET LEASE FOR RETURNING A/D/Z FORD EMPLOYEES,
RETIREES AND ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS.

\$390

A MONTH/
36 MONTHS

\$0

DOWN
PAYMENT

\$1,410

CASH DUE
AT SIGNING†

AFTER \$6,000 CASH BACK
INCLUDING \$1,000 RENEWAL CASH,
\$1,000 FORD CREDIT CASH
AND \$500 A/D/X/Z BONUS CASH

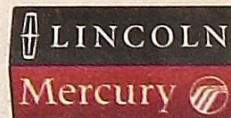
INCLUDES REFUNDABLE SECURITY DEPOSIT AND ACQUISITION FEE.
EXCLUDES TAX, TITLE AND LICENSE FEES.



TIME IS RUNNING OUT FOR YEAR-END SAVINGS!

SEE YOUR METRO DETROIT LINCOLN MERCURY DEALER TODAY.

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at Liberty
(734) 668-6100
sesilm.com

CLINTON TOWNSHIP
Stu Evans Lakeside
17500 Hall Rd.
at Romeo Plank
(586) 840-2000
stuevanslakeside.com

DEARBORN
Jack Demmer
21531 Michigan Ave.
Between Southfield & Telegraph
(313) 274-8800
demmerlm.com

DETROIT
Bob Maxey
16901 Mack Ave.
at Cadieux
(313) 885-4000
bobmaxeylm.com

DETROIT
Park Motor
18100 Woodward Ave.
Opposite Palmer Park
(800) 585-4564
parkmotorslm.com

GARDEN CITY
Stu Evans Garden City
32000 Ford Rd.
Just West of Merriman
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stuevansgardencity.com

NOVI
Varsity
49251 Grand River
I-96 at Wixom Rd. (Exit 159)
Two Exits W. of 12 Oaks Mall
(248) 305-5300
varsitylm.com

PLYMOUTH
Hines Park
40601 Ann Arbor Rd.
at I-275
(734) 453-2424
hinesparklm.com

ROCHESTER HILLS
Crissman
1185 South Rochester Rd.
Between Hamlin & Avon Rd.
(248) 652-4200
crissmanlm.com

SOUTHFIELD
Star
24350 W. 12 Mile Rd.
at Telegraph
(248) 354-4900
starlm.com

SOUTHGATE
Southgate
16800 Fort Street
at Pennsylvania
(734) 285-8800
southgatelincolnm Mercury.com

STERLING HEIGHTS
Crest
36200 Van Dyke
at 15 1/2 Mile Rd.
(586) 939-6000
crestlinmerc.com

TROY
Bob Borst
1950 West Maple
Troy Motor Mall
(248) 643-6600
borstlm.com

YPSILANTI
Sesi
950 East Michigan
9 Miles West of I-275
(734) 482-7133
sesilm.com

As Shown: 2005 Mercury Grand Marquis LS Premium *Standard six-passenger large-car class. **When equipped with available front side-impact airbags. Government's driver and passenger front, side-front and rear crash test, and Rollover Resistance rating. ***"Starting At" price excludes tax, title and license fees. See dealer for their price. Ford Credit Cash available for approved Ford Credit contracts. A/D/X/Z Bonus Cash available for Ford employees, retirees and eligible family members when financed through Ford Credit. Take retail delivery from dealer stock by 1/10/2005. †Call 1-888-56-LEASE for details. Payments may vary. Residency restrictions apply. Take retail delivery from dealer stock by 1/3/2005. ‡According to Polk statistics for the Luxury Car segment in the 2003 model year, Town Car ranked highest by having the greatest percentage of households return to purchase or lease another Town Car.